

LEGISLATION



2023 NCAA CONVENTION

DIVISION II INITIAL PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

117th Annual Convention
January 11-14, 2023
San Antonio, Texas

THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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**Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation
Submitted by the Division II Membership
117th 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 four 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 four 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 (by 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 (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 (SPOPL).

No new proposals may be submitted by the Division II membership for the 2023 NCAA 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 within 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 Bylaw 9. The other publications will be as follows:

September 23 - 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 2023 Convention. This will contain all Division II legislation for the Convention, including all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions submitted by the November 1 deadline.

2022-23 Legislative Calendar

The legislative calendar, as set forth in Bylaw 9, 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.

August 3: Presidents Council Consideration. The Presidents Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. The Presidents Council also reviews the amendments submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline. See "July 15" above. The Presidents Council reviewed these proposals to determine co-sponsorship and to determine committee review assignments.

By 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.

August 31: Administrative Committee Videoconference. On behalf of the Presidents Council, the Administrative Committee reviews all amendments to be included in the 2023 NCAA Convention agenda for placement in the 2023 NCAA Convention Official Notice.

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 includes 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 Bylaw 9.3.4.2) 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.

October 7: Deadline for Committee review. Any Association-wide and/or Division II committee charged by the Presidents Council to evaluate a membership-sponsored amendment must complete its evaluation not later than October 7. The committee must then report the results of its review to the Management Council. The Management Council will review each committee's evaluation at its October videoconference. If the committee issued a position statement, the position must be publicized in the Official Notice.

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: 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 11-14, 2023: 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 - Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive
Ismael Contreras, Purdue University Northwest
Shawn Chin-Farrell, California State University, San Bernardino
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference
Kara Lindaman, Winona State University
Alex Pappas, Metropolitan State University of Denver
Pennie Parker, Rollins College
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University
Jason Stock, California State University
Melinda Terry, St. Edward's University

117th Annual Convention

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP

[Note: Pursuant to Constitution 9.3.12, 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.]

Recruiting and Playing and Practice Seasons

No. 1-1 RECRUITING AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS – TIME LIMITS FOR ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES – WEEKLY HOUR LIMITATIONS – OUTSIDE OF PLAYING SEASON – SUMMER ACCESS – VOLUNTARY WORKOUTS FOR TEAM SPORTS

Intent: To specify that a signed prospective student-athlete and a student-athlete may participate in up to two hours per week of individual workout-sessions with a member of the coaching staff beginning July 5 through the start of the institution's fall term, for a period up to three weeks, provided the request for such assistance is initiated by a signed prospective student-athlete or student-athlete.

A. Bylaws: Amend 13.11.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

13.11.2 Permissible Activities.

[13.11.2.1 through 13.11.2.6 unchanged.]

13.11.2.7 Voluntary Summer Workout -- Team Sports. In team sports, beginning July 5 through the start of the institution's fall term, for a period up to three weeks, a signed prospective student-athlete may participate in individual workout-sessions with a member of the coaching staff, provided the request for such assistance is initiated by the signed prospective student-athlete. Participation in such activities shall be limited to a maximum of two hours per week.

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.1.6.3.5, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.1.6.3.5 Institutional Vacation Period. A student-athlete may not participate in any countable athletically related activities outside the playing season during any institutional vacation period (e.g., summer, academic year).

[17.1.6.3.5.1 through 17.1.6.3.5.2 unchanged.]

17.1.6.3.5.3 Exception -- Summer Access -- Team Sports. In team sports, beginning July 5 through the start of the institution's fall term, for a period up to three weeks, a student-athlete may participate in individual workout-sessions with a member of the coaching staff, provided the request for such assistance is initiated by the student-athlete. Participation in such activities shall be limited to a maximum of two hours per week. (See Bylaw 13.11.2.7 for signed prospective student-athletes.)

Source: Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association

Effective Date: Immediate

Rationale: The relationship between coach and student-athlete is vital in preparation for the academic and athletic demands that come with a new school year. COVID-19 was very traumatic for student-athletes and coaches, and the NCAA waiver of coaches being allowed to interact with their student-athletes over the summer period during COVID-19 was well received by coaches and students in all sports. This permissive legislative change will continue that practice in Division II, for a limited period of time each July through the start of the institution's fall term and will specify that the participation in the activities must come at the request of a signed prospective student-athlete or student-athlete. Finally, the immediate effective date will permit signed prospective student-athletes or student athletes to have access to individual workout sessions during summer 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: If adopted, will this proposal amend the current exception which allows fall sport student-athletes to participate in workouts designed and conducted by the institution's strength and conditioning personnel [see Division II Bylaw 17.1.6.3.5.1 (exception – fall championships sports)]?

Answer: No.

Question No. 2: May multiple signed prospective student-athletes or student-athletes in team sports participate in an individual workout-session with a coaching staff member at the same time?

Answer: Yes, provided the request for such assistance is initiated by each signed prospective student-athlete or student-athlete.

Question No. 3: May multiple coaches conduct an individual workout-session with a signed prospective student-athlete or student-athlete in team sports?

Answer: Yes, provided the signed prospective student-athlete or student-athlete requests the presence of each involved coaching staff member.

Question No. 4: Must the three-week period occur over consecutive weeks?

Answer: No, however all individual workout-sessions must conclude prior to the start of the institution's fall term. Institutions are responsible for monitoring that individual signed prospective student-athletes or student-athletes do not participate in more than three weeks between July 5 and the start of the institution's fall term.

Question No. 5: May a transfer prospective student-athlete in team sports (e.g., NCAA, two-year college, NAIA) request individual workout-sessions with a member of the coaching staff beginning July 5 through the start of the institution's fall term?

Answer: Yes, provided the prospective student-athlete satisfies the applicable transfer requirements prior to requesting the assistance of the coaching staff member.

Question No. 6: Prior to being able to request participation in individual workout-sessions with a member of the coaching staff, must a signed prospective student-athlete or student-athlete complete all mandatory medical examinations [see Division II Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examinations)]?

Answer: Yes.

Primary Contact Person:

Mike Racy, Commissioner
Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association
Email: mracy@themiaa.com

Eligibility

No. 1-2 ELIGIBILITY AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE AND FOOTBALL -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY AND OUT-OF-SEASON ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES -- EXCEPTION -- COMPETITION IN THE NONCHAMPIONSHIP SEGMENT AND SPRING PRACTICE -- SCRIMMAGE AGAINST A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION

Intent: In football, to permit a scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution during spring practice as one of the three permissible 11-on-11 scrimmages to occur on or after the 10th day of spring practice; further, to specify that participation in a scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution does not trigger use of a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment in the same academic year that concludes with the NCAA championship.

A. Bylaws: Amend 14.2, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

14.2 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.10 and 14.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

[14.2.1 through 14.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

14.2.4.1 Minimum Amount of Competition. Any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport. This provision is applicable to intercollegiate athletics competition conducted by a two-year or four-year collegiate institution at the varsity or subvarsity level.

[14.2.4.1.1 through 14.2.4.1.2 unchanged.]

14.2.4.1.3 Exception – Competition in the Nonchampionship Segment **and Spring Football**. In field hockey, **football**, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's volleyball and men's and women's water polo, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment in the same academic year that concludes with the NCAA championship. In baseball, women's beach volleyball, softball and men's and women's lacrosse, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition. Prior to participating against outside competition during the nonchampionship segment **and spring football practice**, student-athletes shall be certified as eligible (e.g., amateurism, enrolled full time).

[14.2.4.1.4 through 14.2.4.1.6 unchanged.]

[14.2.4.2 through 14.2.4.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.5 through 14.2.7 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.11, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

17.11 Football.

[17.11.1 through 17.11.8 unchanged.]

17.11.8.3 Annual Exemptions. The maximum number of contests in football shall exclude the following:

[17.11.8.3-(a) through 17.11.8.3-(h) unchanged.]

(i) Spring Practice Scrimmage. One scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution during spring practice.

[17.11.8.3-(i) through 17.11.8.3-(k) relettered as 17.11.8.3-(j) through 17.11.8.3-(l), unchanged.]

[17.11.8.3 through 17.11.8.4 unchanged.]

17.11.9 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the playing season, except for the following:

[17.11.9-(a) through 17.11.9-(b) unchanged.]

[17.11.9-(b)-(1) through 17.11.9-(b)-(7) unchanged.]

(8) An institution may participate in a scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution and the scrimmage shall count as one of the three sessions that may be devoted primarily to 11-on-11 scrimmages. The scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution may not occur until on or after the 10th spring practice. [See Bylaw 14.2.4.1.3 for participation during the nonchampionship segment].

[17.11.9-(b)-(8) through 17.11.9-(b)-(9) renumbered as 17.11.9-(b)-(9) through 17.11.9-(b)-(10), unchanged.]

[17.11.9 through 17.11.10 unchanged.]

Source: Great American Conference, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Gulf South Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and South Atlantic Conference.

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: Currently, outside of the playing season in the sport of football, an institution may participate in no more than three sessions that may be devoted primarily to 11-on-11 scrimmages. However, it is currently impermissible for an institution to participate in a scrimmage against an outside team, four-year collegiate institution while outside of the playing season. Allowing a Division II institution, in the sport of football, to participate in a scrimmage against another four-year collegiate institution outside of the playing season will improve the development and retention of football student-athletes by providing them with a competitive opportunity against another team. Delaying the scrimmage to occur after the ninth day of spring practice allows for acclimatization to contact, as permitted in Bylaw 17.11.9. Further, allowing such participation to not count as a season of competition will align football with other fall sports that are permitted to participate during the nonchampionship segment and not use a season of competition. Finally, the immediate effective date will permit Division II institutions to take advantage of the legislative change for the 2023 spring term.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Currently, in the sport of football during the spring practice period, an institution may participate in no more than three 11-on-11 scrimmages. However, it is currently impermissible for an institution to participate in a scrimmage against an outside team.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, in the sport of football during the spring practice period, an institution may participate in one scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution as one of the three 11-on-11 scrimmages on or after the 10th day of spring practice.

Additionally, participation in the scrimmage would not count as a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship.

Playing and Practice Seasons

Question No. 3: If adopted, when is it permissible for a scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution to occur?

Answer: If adopted, the scrimmage may occur on or after the 10th day of the spring practice period.

Eligibility

Question No. 4: May a football student-athlete who is academically ineligible during the NCAA championship segment and regains eligibility for the spring term participate in the scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution?

Answer: Yes, however, the student-athlete would be charged with a season of competition.

Question No 5: If adopted, is it permissible for a football midyear transfer student-athlete to participate in the scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution during the spring practice period and not use a season?

Answer: Yes, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the preceding fall term and is certified as eligible for the spring term.

Primary Contact Person:

Amber Feldman, Senior Associate Commissioner
Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association
Email: feldman@themiaa.com

No. 1-3 ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- UP TO THREE CONTESTS -- FOOTBALL

Intent: In football, to specify that a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to three contests in a season without using a season of competition.

Bylaws: Amend 14.2, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

14.2 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.10 and 14.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

[14.2.1 through 14.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

14.2.4.1 Minimum Amount of Competition. Any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport. This provision is applicable to intercollegiate athletics competition conducted by a two-year or four-year collegiate institution at the varsity or subvarsity level.

[14.2.4.1.1 through 14.2.4.1.6 unchanged.]

14.2.4.1.7 Exception -- Football. In football, a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to three contests in a season without using a season of competition.

[14.2.4.2 through 14.2.4.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.5 through 14.2.7 unchanged.]

Source: Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Gulf South Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and South Atlantic Conference.

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: Under current legislation, a student-athlete who participates in any contest uses a season of competition in that sport. A Division II football student-athlete is not permitted to participate in an exhibition game or scrimmage and must count that experience as a season of competition. Additionally, some Division II student-athletes are permitted to participate in competition during the nonchampionship segment without using a season of competition, provided they were academically eligible during the segment that concluded with the NCAA championship. Academically, a student-athlete who participates in limited contests during the initial year of collegiate enrollment will likely have a more favorable experience and it is more likely the student-athlete will be retained at the institution. In addition, academic success rates may increase with this change. Moreover, institutions sponsoring football are permitted to award athletically related financial aid to student-athletes equaling 36 equivalencies, compared to their Division I football bowl subdivision (FBS) and football championship subdivision (FCS) counterparts at 85 and 63 scholarships, respectively. There are fewer football student-athletes allowed on Division II game day rosters. Finally, this rule would not change the Division II 10-semester/15-quarter rule, or the eligibility of a partial qualifier to participate in NCAA athletics.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, a football student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to three contests without using a season of competition.

Question No. 2: If adopted, will any football student-athlete, including transfers, have access to the exception?

Answer: No. A football student-athlete must be enrolled at a Division II institution in their initial year of collegiate enrollment in order to have access to the exception.

Question No. 3: If adopted, will a student-athlete who initially enrolls midyear at a Division II institution and remains at the institution for the subsequent fall term have access to the exception?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 4: If adopted, will a student-athlete who initially enrolls midyear at a collegiate institution and transfers to a Division II institution for the subsequent fall term have access to the exception?

Answer: Yes.

For example, if a student-athlete initially enrolls full-time at a collegiate institution for the 2023 spring term but then transfers and enrolls full-time at a Division II institution for the 2023 fall term, they would have access to the exception at the Division II institution, provided they do not participate in more than three contests during the 2023 fall term. The institution is responsible for ensuring that the transfer student-athlete is still in their initial year of collegiate enrollment.

Question No. 5: May the participation in the three contests occur at any time?

Answer: Yes. There is not a restriction in place related to when the contests must occur and the contests may take place during regular or postseason competition. A Division II football student-athlete will have access to the exception provided they do not participate in more than three contests during their initial year of collegiate enrollment.

Primary Contact Person:

Mike Racy, Commissioner
Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association
Email: mracy@themiaa.com

Playing and Practice Seasons

No. 1-4 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS AND BASKETBALL -- BASKETBALL FIRST PERMISSIBLE PRACTICE DATE

Intent: In basketball, to specify that an institution shall not commence on-court preseason basketball practice sessions before the date that is 35 days before the institution's first regular-season contest; further, to specify that an institution shall not engage in more than 25 days of countable athletically related activities during the on-court preseason practice period.

A. Bylaws: Amend 17.1.6.3.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

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) unchanged.]

(1) In basketball, from September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier, through ~~the day before October 15~~ **35 calendar days before the date of the institution's first regular-season contest.**

[17.1.6.3.1-(a)-(2) through 17.1.6.3.1-(a)-(3) unchanged.]

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

[17.1.6.3.1.1 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.4.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.4.2 Preseason Practices.

17.4.2.1 On-Court Practice. A member institution shall not commence on-court preseason basketball practice sessions before ~~October 15~~ **the date that is 35 days before the date of the institution's first regular-season contest. An institution shall not engage in more than 25 days of countable athletically related activities before its first regular-season contest. Any countable athletically related activities (e.g., conditioning, skill-related instruction) that occurs within the 35-day period shall count against the 25 days of countable athletically related activities.**

[17.4.2.1.1 unchanged.]

Source: Great American Conference, Gulf South Conference and Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: Current legislation specifies that on-court preseason basketball practice may not begin before October 15. Given the first permissible contest date, this results in basketball programs completing approximately 24 practices within 27 days (on average). This reflects 85.7% of the preseason period days involving basketball activities. The proposed legislation would provide a greater amount of rest and recovery time in the preseason period, while maintaining approximately the total number of days featuring countable athletically related activities during this period. 25 days of countable athletically related activities in a 35-day period results in a 14.3% reduction in days with countable athletically related activities in the preseason period. The proposed legislation does not adjust the first permissible contest date, or any other Bylaw 17 countable athletically related activities legislation (e.g., hours per week, hours per day). Further, the proposed legislation would provide institutions the flexibility to build the preseason schedule appropriately to accommodate academic schedules, facility constraints and other factors that are unavoidable under the current preseason model.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation surrounding the first permissible on-court practice date?

Answer: Currently, in the sport of basketball, an institution shall not commence on-court preseason basketball practice sessions before October 15.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation surrounding the first permissible on-court practice date?

Answer: If adopted, in the sport of basketball, an institution may begin on-court preseason basketball practice sessions 35 days before the institution's first regular-season contest.

Please note, contests that may permissibly occur prior to the second Friday in November (i.e., Division II Conference Commissioners Association's Tip-Off Classic, discretionary exemptions) shall not be used to determine the start of the 35-day practice period.

Question No. 3: What is considered the date of the institution's first regular season contest?

Answer: The institution's first regular season contest is any contest on or after the second Friday in November.

Question No. 4: If adopted, will this proposal amend the outside of the playing season legislation for basketball?

Answer: Yes. The out-of-season segment for basketball would conclude 36 days prior to the institution's first regular-season contest.

Primary Contact Person:

Erin Lind, Commissioner
Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference
Email: lind@northernsun.org

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 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.