

LEGISLATION

2023 NCAA CONVENTION

DIVISION III INITIAL PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

117th Annual Convention

January 11-14, 2023

San Antonio



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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**Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation Submitted by the
NCAA Division III Membership
117th Annual Convention**

This publication presents the proposed amendments to NCAA legislation that were properly submitted by the NCAA Division III membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline in the NCAA legislative calendar.

The proposals are 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 amendments.

This publication is produced directly from the Legislative Services Database for the Internet each time it is downloaded. Therefore, the content of the publication may change each time it is accessed from the NCAA webpage. As modifications or corrections are made to the proposals during the sponsor modification period, updates will be made to LSDBi and those changes will be reflected in this document.

Between the date this publication is posted (not later than 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 proposals 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 designated primary contact persons in mid-August. Sponsors may use the LSDBi "Sponsor Modification Submission" section to modify the legislative proposal they have submitted. All such modifications must be received by the NCAA national office not later than 5 p.m. Eastern time, September 15. In addition, sponsors who wish to withdraw a proposal should contact Jeff Myers (jmyers@ncaa.org) or Sarah Turner (sturner@ncaa.org); however, please note that if withdrawn after September 15, the proposal will still appear in the Second Publication of Proposed Legislation.

No new proposals may be submitted by the Division III membership for the Convention after the July 15 deadline; however, proposals are available for co-sponsorship until September 1. Member institutions and conferences that wish to offer suggested revisions to an amendment are encouraged to contact the designated primary contact person listed with each proposal. Such contacts should be made as early as possible in the period of time 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 addressing Convention legislation, as dictated by the provisions of NCAA Bylaw 9. The other publications will be as follows:

Second Publication of Proposed Legislation. Issued not later than September 23 and includes the proposals properly sponsored by the Division III membership as modified on or prior to September 15, as well as all legislation submitted by the NCAA Division III Presidents Council and the NCAA Division III Management Council in accordance with the September 1 deadline. Amendment-to-amendment forms will also be available at this time.

Official Notice of the 2023 Convention. Issued on November 15 and contains all Division III 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 III 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, and must be sponsored by at least one conference or at least 10 individual institution sponsors.

July 18-19: Management Council consideration. The Management Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. It also reviews proposals submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline.

August 3: 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.

Not Later Than August 15: Posting of Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation.

Date IPOPL is Posted 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. Also, 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 or Management Council.

September 1: Deadline for proper co-sponsorship of membership proposals. The proposals must receive proper co-sponsorship from one additional conference (if originally sponsored by one conference) otherwise 10 additional institutions (if originally sponsored by 10 institutions) or it will be withdrawn.

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 amendment.

Not Later Than September 23: Posting of Second Publication of Proposed Legislation. This publication includes all membership-sponsored proposals as modified and includes all proposals sponsored by the Presidents Council or Management Council.

Date SPOPL is Posted through November 1: Amendment-to-amendment period. The Presidents Council and Management Council as well as the membership (see Bylaw 9.3.4.2) may submit amendments to the proposals in the Second Publication of Proposed Legislation. These amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification of the provisions to be amended; they must fall between the provisions of the original proposed amendment and the current provisions.

November 1: Deadline for all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions 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 Management Council are authorized to submit further amendments-to-amendments at the Convention if they deem such action necessary.

November 15: Publication of the Official Notice of the Convention. This publication includes all Division III proposed legislation and the properly submitted amendments-to-amendments and resolutions.

January 11-14, 2023: NCAA Convention. Voting on proposals will occur at the business session.

NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee

Kurt J. Beron, University of Texas at Dallas
Matt Hill, University of Northwestern-St. Paul
Keri Alexander Luchowski, North Coast Athletic Conference
Bethany Marren, Rochester Institute of Technology
Michael A Mattia, Gettysburg College
Mercy Ogutu, Trinity Washington University (Student-Athlete)
Patrick B. Summers, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (chair)
Mila C. Su, Plattsburgh State University of New York

117th Annual Convention

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP

[Note: Pursuant to Constitution 9.3.11, 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 an effective date other than the first day of August following the Convention, the rationale statement shall contain reasons why the amendment has an alternative effective date. Those proposals that are given an immediate effective date and that are adopted, become effective on 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 **boldface and are underlined** are to be added; and
- Those letters and words that appear in normal text are unchanged from the current Division III legislation.

No. 1-1 COMMITTEES -- PRESIDENTS AND MANAGEMENT COUNCILS -- COMPOSITION -- CONFERENCE BASED REPRESENTATION

Intent: To ensure the following: that each Division III multi-sport conference will have one representative on either Presidents or Management Council and that the conference's slot on either will alternative accordingly; the Nominating Committee will coordinate nominations for Management Council and Presidents Council; and, if a conference is unable to secure nominees for either council their slot will go unfilled unless the council is smaller than 18 members in which case at-large selection will be made from the entire membership nominees from a conference not currently represented on the respective council, including nominees from independent institutions.

A. Bylaws: Amend 21.9, as follows:

21.9.5.9 Nominating Committee.

[21.9.5.9.1 unchanged.]

21.9.5.9.2 Duties. The committee shall coordinate nominations for **the Division III Presidents Council**, the Division III Management Council, all standing committees that report to the Management Council, all Division III sports committees and all Division III positions on Association-wide and common committees.

B. Bylaws: Amend 21.9.5.10, as follows:

21.9.5.10 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

[21.9.5.10.1 through 21.9.5.10.2 unchanged.]

21.9.5.10.3 Presidents Council Service. The committee shall submit nominations (at least one representing a male team and one representing a female team) to serve on the Presidents Council. The committee will submit its nominations, pursuant to the committee's policies, to the Presidents Council Nominations Subcommittee for final approval by the Presidents Council. **The nominations may not be used to fill a conference slot on the Presidents Council.** To be eligible to serve on Presidents Council the committee member must have completed at least one year of service on the committee and be serving on a Division III or Association-wide committee. Current Management Council representatives are no not eligible. Committee members shall be eligible for a one-year term which may be renewed for one year.

21.9.5.10.4 Management Council Service. The committee annually shall elect two members (one male, one female) to serve on the Management Council. **The two members may not be used to fill conference slots on the Management Council.** To be eligible for Management Council service, at least one committee member shall have completed at least one year of service on the committee. Committee members shall be eligible for not more than two years of service on the Management Council. Committee members appointed to serve on the Management Council shall not be from the same member institution as another current member of the Management Council.

[21.9.5.10.5 unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 21.10, as follows:

21.10 Presidents Council.

21.10.1 Composition. The Presidents Council shall ~~include 20 members and shall be comprised of 18 Division III chancellors or presidents and~~ two student-athletes from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (see Bylaw 21.9.5.10.3) **and no less than 18 members but no more than half of the number of active multi-sport conferences (rounding up to the next whole number) shall be comprised of Division III chancellors or presidents.**

21.10.1.1 Members - Chancellors or Presidents. ~~At least two members of the Council shall be included from each Division III geographical region (see Bylaw 21.13 for geographical regions) and ten members shall serve "at large."~~ In addition, appropriate consideration shall be given to appointing Division III chancellors or presidents from historically black colleges and universities. The members of the council shall include:

[21.10.1.1-(a) through 21.10.1.1-(i) unchanged.]

(j) Between Presidents Council and Management Council, each active Division III multi-sport conference will have a slot for one non-student-athlete representative. That conference slot will rotate between the councils.

[21.10.2 through 21.10.3 unchanged.]

21.10.3.2 Selection of Members - Chancellors or Presidents. Members of the Presidents Council shall be selected by Division III chancellors or presidents. The ~~council annually shall appoint a nominating committee, which~~ shall present to the council (before the Convention) a slate of nominees to serve as members of the council. Additional candidates shall be placed on the appropriate slate of nominees if such candidates have the endorsement of at least 10 chancellors or presidents of Division III institutions. ~~In all cases, an effort shall be made to develop a balanced slate that provides fair representation among the division's regions, conferences and institutions.~~ At no time shall two individuals from the same institution serve on the Presidents Council and Management Council simultaneously.

21.10.3.2.1 Conference Slot. If there are no nominees for a conference slot, the slot will go unfilled. If the council is smaller than 18 members, to get the council to at least 18 members, selection may be made from any membership nominees, including nominees from independent institutions, provided the nominees are from a conference not currently represented on the respective council.

21.10.3.2.12 ~~Election~~Mail-Vote. Members of the Presidents Council shall be elected by **electronic** mail vote of the chancellors or presidents of Division III institutions. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed. The election shall not be subject to the requirement in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, that all candidates in an election remain in contention until one receives a majority.

21.10.3.2.23 Vacancies. The Presidents Council, by a majority vote, may fill a vacancy that occurs **for a conference slot**~~among the members~~ for the unexpired term. Members appointed to fill vacancies shall be appointed only for the unexpired portion of that term.

21.10.3.3 Term of Office - Members Chancellors or Presidents. Members of the Presidents Council shall serve four-year terms. ~~The council may waive the four-year term limit if an extension is necessary and appropriate to enhance the council's continuity and effectiveness or otherwise allow the council to continue to fulfill its representational requirements. Members shall not be eligible for another term on the council until two years have elapsed.~~ An individual may not serve on the council for more than two terms.

[21.10.3.4 unchanged.]

21.10.3.5 Determination of Full Term. **The conference shall retain its slot for the entire four-year term (see Bylaw 21.10.3.2.2). If a Presidents Council member serves more than one half of a term, the conference slot will remain unfilled for the remainder of the unexpired term.**~~Presidents Council members who serve more than one-half of a term shall be considered to have served a full term.~~

D. Bylaws: Amend 21.11, as follows:

21.11 Management Council.

21.11.1 Composition. The Management Council shall include **no less than 18 members but no more than half of the number of active multi-sport conferences (rounding up to the next whole number)**~~21 members~~ and shall be comprised of Division III chancellors or presidents, athletics direct reports (non-chancellors or presidents with oversight of intercollegiate athletics), faculty athletics representatives, directors of athletics, senior woman administrators, **and** conference representatives ~~and student-athletes~~. **The council shall also include two student-athletes (see Bylaws 21.9.5.10.4 and 21.11.1.2).**

21.11.1.1 Members Who Are Not Student-Athletes. ~~At least two members who are not student-athletes shall be included from each Division III geographical region (see Bylaw 21.13.1.1). One of these members shall serve as chair and one shall serve as vice chair.~~ These members ~~also~~ shall include:

[21.11.1.1-(a) through 21.11.1.1-(g) unchanged.]

(h) Between Presidents Council and Management Council, each active Division III multi-sport conference will have a slot for one non-student-athlete representative. That conference slot will rotate between the councils.

[21.11.1.2 unchanged.]

21.11.2 Vacancies. ~~A representative of a playing conference or member institution whose term of service has expired shall not be replaced on the Management Council by a representative of the same conference or institution for a period of at least one year.~~ At no time shall two individuals from the same institution serve on the Management Council and Presidents Council simultaneously.

~~21.11.2.1 Exception – Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The Management Council may waive the application of Bylaw 21.11.2 for Student-Athlete Advisory Committee members selected to serve on the Management Council.~~

[21.11.3 through 21.11.4 unchanged.]

21.11.4.1.1 Conference Slot. If there are no nominees for a conference slot, the slot will go unfilled. If the council is smaller than 18 members, to get the council to at least 18 members, selection may be made from any membership nominees, including nominees from independent institutions, provided the nominees are from a conference not currently represented on the respective council.

[21.11.4.1.1 renumbered as 21.11.4.1.2, unchanged.]

21.11.4.1.23 Vacancies. When a vacancy occurs on the council, the council, by a majority vote, may fill **the conference slot for** the unexpired term. Members appointed to fill vacancies shall be appointed only for the unexpired portion of that term.

21.11.4.2 Term of Office. Members of the Management Council shall serve four-year terms. *Members shall not be eligible for re-election to another term on the council until four years have elapsed.* A member may not serve on the council more than two terms.

[21.11.4.3 unchanged.]

21.11.4.4 Determination of Full Term. The conference shall retain its slot for the entire four-year term (see Bylaw 21.11.4.1.3). If a Management Council member serves more than one half of a term, the conference slot will remain unfilled for the remainder of the unexpired term. *Management Council members who serve more than one-half of a term shall be considered to have served a full term.*

E. Bylaws: Amend 21.13, as follows:

21.13 Geographical Regions.

21.13.1 Geographical Regions. For the purpose of **committee** representation ~~on the Management Council and the President Council (see Bylaws 21.10 and 21.11)~~, the Association shall be divided into geographical regions.

[21.13.1.1 unchanged.]

Source: Empire 8, Presidents' Athletic Conference, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conf., and USA South Athletic Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2024

Rationale: This change will provide for improved and consistent representation for the Division III membership. It will ensure broad representation and the most diverse perspective at all times. By establishing a rotation this will be a fair and transparent process for all member institutions to be part of the two highest Councils in the Division III governance structure. The rotation allows for simplified planning and representation with the ability for member institutions to anticipate when terms end and engage the necessary bodies within their conference to determine the slate of candidates to put forth. This change establishes a Council of an estimated 22 individuals serving on each and should be adjusted if additional conferences join Division III. If an individual resigns or is no longer connected to that conference, the member institutions of that conference will be responsible for submitting replacement options for the Nominating Committee to consider.

Budget Impact: Some increased costs associated with committee expansion

Primary Contact Person:

Jennifer Dubow, Commissioner
Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conf.
Email: jdubow@thesciac.org

No. 1-2 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FALL PRESEASON PRACTICE FORMULA -- SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON ACCLIMATIZATION FOR FALL SPORTS

Intent: To amend the preseason legislation for all fall sports, except football and men's water polo, as follows (1) to calculate the first permissible start date by counting back 18 days; (2) require an acclimatization period during the first seven days during preseason practice; (3) require one day off per defined week of the preseason, including the acclimatization period; and (4) require all student-athletes, including those who arrive to preseason practice after the first day of practice to undergo the seven-day acclimatization period.

A. Bylaws: Amend 17.02.12, as follows:

17.02.12 Fall Preseason Practice Formula -- Sports Other Than Football. In cross country, field hockey, *golf, rowing,* rugby, soccer, **triathlon, tennis** and women's volleyball, the first permissible date for preseason practice shall be **no**

earlier than 18 days before its first scheduled contest. determined by the application of 16 units in the preseason practice formula, as specified in this section. In golf, tennis and rowing, see bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 for determining the first permissible date for preseason practice.

17.02.12.1 Seven-Day Acclimatization Period – Days 1-4. Preseason practice shall begin with four days of an acclimatization period for both first-time participants (e.g., first years and transfers) and continuing student-athletes. The four-day acclimatization period shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) Institutions may not conduct conditioning, speed, strength, or agility tests before the start of the acclimatization period.
- (b) Institutions are permitted to conduct weight training activities during days 1-4 of the acclimatization period without counting those activities toward the maximum hour limitations for practices; however, weight training activities may not be conducted during the required three hours of continuous recovery time between any sessions.
- (c) Institutions are not permitted to conduct outside competition (e.g., scrimmages, joint practices, or competition) during days 1-4 of the acclimatization period.
- (d) During the first day of the acclimatization period in cross country, field hockey, rowing, rugby, soccer, tennis, triathlon and women's volleyball, an institution may conduct either:
 - (1) One practice and one walk-through or activity session, which shall be limited to a combined total of four hours per day with the practice session not to exceed three hours. No equipment related to the respective sport, if applicable, may be used and conditioning activities may not occur during the walk-through or activity session. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time between any sessions (e.g., practice or walk-through or activity). During the recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time; or
 - (2) One testing session (e.g., speed, conditioning, or agility tests), not to exceed one hour in length, one practice, not to exceed two hours in length and one one-hour walk-through or activity session. No equipment related to the respective sport may be used and conditioning activities may not occur during the walk-through or activity session. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time between any sessions (e.g., practice, walk-through or activity, testing). During the recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time.
- (e) During days 2-3, participants in the sports of cross country, field hockey, rowing, rugby, soccer, tennis, triathlon, and women's volleyball shall not engage in more than one practice, and one walk-through session, which shall be limited to a combined total of four hours per day with the practice session not to exceed three hours. No equipment related to the respective sport may be used and conditioning activities may not occur during the walk-through/activity session. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time between any sessions (e.g., practice, walk-through, or activity). During the recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time.
- (f) During days 1-4 of the acclimatization period, participants in the sport of golf shall not engage in more than four hours of practice per day. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time between any practice periods of less than four hours on the same day. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time immediately after any single four-hour practice. During the recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time.

17.02.12.2 Seven-Day Acclimatization Period – Days 5-7. Days 5-7 of the acclimatization period shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) Beginning on day 5 of the acclimatization period, an institution may conduct multiple practice sessions on the same day in cross country, field hockey, golf, rowing, rugby, soccer, tennis, triathlon and women's volleyball;

- (b) Student-athletes in cross country, field hockey, rowing, rugby, tennis, triathlon and women's volleyball shall not engage in more than two practices and one walk-through or activity session, which shall be limited to a combined total of five hours per day with any single practice session not to exceed three hours;
- (c) Student-athletes in cross country, field hockey, rowing, rugby, soccer, tennis, triathlon and women's volleyball must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time between practice sessions and a walk-through or activity session. During this recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g. weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time;
- (d) Student-athletes in the sports of golf shall not engage in more than five hours of practice per day. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time between any practice periods of less than five hours on the same day;
- (e) Student-athletes must be provided with at least three hours of continuous recovery time immediately after any single five-hour practice. During the recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time; and
- (f) Institutions are not permitted to conduct outside competition (e.g., scrimmages, joint practices, or competition) during days 5-7 of the acclimatization period.

17.02.12.3 Mandatory Day Off During the Combined Acclimatization Periods. All athletically related activities shall be prohibited during one calendar day per defined week, whether or not class is in session.

17.02.12.4 First Scheduled Intercollegiate Competition. The counting for cross country, field hockey, rugby, soccer, triathlon and women's volleyball should begin on the day before the first scheduled intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 for golf, rowing and tennis). It is not permissible to determine the starting date for preseason practice by counting back from the first scheduled preseason exhibition, scrimmage or joint practice season.

17.02.12.25.4 Football Preseason Practice Formula. Do not use the preseason practice formula detailed within this section for the sport of football. Instead, use the formula in Bylaw 17.11.3.1.

~~17.02.12.26 Determining the First Permissible Practice Date for Fall Sports Other Than Football -- Application of the 16 Units.~~ **Men's Water Polo Preseason Practice Formula.** To determine the first permissible practice date, an institution shall count back a total of 16 units on a calendar starting with the day before the first scheduled intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw 17.02.12.2.1), as follows: **In the sport of men's water polo, the first permissible date for preseason practice shall be determined by the application of 21 units in the preseason practice formula as follows:**

[17.02.12.2-(a) through 17.02.12.2-(b) renumbered as 17.02.12.6-(a) through 17.02.12.6-(b) unchanged.]

- (c) The first six units: assign one unit to each of the six calendar days (not including Sunday) before the first scheduled intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw 17.02.12.6.2.2.1);
- (d) The remaining ~~15~~**16** units:
 - (1) Assign one unit to each calendar day (not including Sundays) that occurs on or after the opening day of classes for the fall term (see Bylaw 17.02.12.2.2), and
 - (2) Assign two units to each calendar day before the opening day of classes for the fall term (not including Sundays) until the sum of units on the calendar reaches ~~21~~**16**;
- (e) The date on which the total count of units on the calendar reaches ~~21~~**16** is the first permissible date for preseason practice (see Bylaw 17.02.12.2.3).

~~17.02.12.16.1~~ **17.02.12.26.12** Unit -- Defined. A "unit" is a numerical value assigned to a particular calendar day within the application of the preseason practice formula that is used to determine the first permissible practice date for fall sports other than football. The number of units assigned to a particular day does not determine or limit the number of practices that may be conducted on that day.

~~17.02.12.26.12~~ **17.02.12.26.12** First Scheduled Intercollegiate Competition. The assignment of units for counting using the preseason practice formula should begin on the day before the first scheduled intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 for exception). It is not permissible to determine the starting date for preseason practice by counting back from the first scheduled preseason exhibition, scrimmage or joint practice season.

17.02.12.~~26.23~~ Opening Day of Classes. The opening day of classes is defined as the first day of classes as listed in the member institution's official catalog. Required freshman orientation is not considered to be the opening day of classes for the academic year.

17.02.12.~~26.34~~ Remainder of One Counting Unit. If the ~~2016~~th and ~~21st~~~~17th~~ unit is on the same day, it is permissible to begin practice on that day since it is the day in which the total count of units reaches ~~2016~~.

~~17.02.12.2.5 Men's Water Polo. In the sport of men's water polo, the first permissible date for preseason practice shall be determined by the application of 21 units in the preseason practice formula. The 21 units shall be applied in the same manner as set forth in 17.02.12.2-(a)-(e) with the exception that there are 15 remaining units after applying 17.02.12.2-(c). The remaining 15 units shall be assigned in the manner described in 17.02.12.2-(d) Nos. (1) and (2).~~

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.1.1.3, as follows:

17.1.1.3 Length of Playing Season.

17.1.1.3.1 Sports with a Fall NCAA Championship. The length of an institution's playing season shall be limited to a maximum of 18 weeks.

17.1.1.3.1.1 Segment Limitations. Except for the sport of football (see Bylaw 17.11) and unless otherwise noted in the applicable sport section, the playing season shall be conducted according to the following:

[17.1.1.3.1.1-(a) unchanged.]

(1) First Permissible Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice **earlier than 18 days**~~before the date that permits a maximum of 16 units in the preseason practice formula (see Bylaw 17.02.12)~~ before the first scheduled intercollegiate competition. This provision is not applicable to men's water polo [see Bylaw 17.27.2-(a)].

[17.1.1.3.1.1-(a)-(2) through 17.1.1.3.1.1-(a)-(3) unchanged.]

[17.1.1.3.1.1-(b) unchanged.]

[17.1.1.3.2 through 17.1.1.3.3 unchanged.]

17.1.1.3.4 Golf, Rowing and Tennis. The length of an institution's playing season shall be limited to a maximum of 19 weeks.

17.1.1.3.4.1 Periods.

[17.1.1.3.4.1-(a) unchanged.]

(1) First Permissible Practice. The date that permits a maximum of 16 units in the preseason practice formula **not earlier than 18 days** before the first permissible date of competition (as opposed to the institution's first date of competition) as specified in each sport.

[17.1.1.3.4.1-(a)-(2) through 17.1.1.3.4.1-(a)-(3) unchanged.]

[17.1.1.3.4.1-(b) unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 17.27.2, as follows:

17.27.2 Preseason Practice.

(a) Men. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in men's water polo before the date that permits a maximum of 21 permissible units in the preseason practice formula (see Bylaw 17.02.12.~~62.5~~) before the first scheduled intercollegiate competition.

[17.27.2-(b) unchanged.]

Source: North Coast Athletic Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: There was a great emphasis on the guidelines within the NCAA's Prevention of Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes document over the course of the 2020-21 academic year as teams faced more and longer periods of inactivity than ever before. As we now return to more usual seasons of play, there is a recognition that current legislation for the fall sport preseason practice period makes it more difficult for teams to implement the important health and safety guidelines laid out in the NCAA Prevention of Catastrophic Injury and

Death in Collegiate Athletes document - except in the sports of football and men's water polo. The proposed changes incorporate additional structure and time for all institutions to equitably implement the guidelines, in place since 2018-19, into the preseasons for all other fall sports through structured acclimatization periods. The proposed changes also help limit risk to institutions by providing the space to meet the guidelines published by the NCAA. Additionally, the structure of the preseason days may allow some flexibility for incoming student-athletes to participate in important orientation activities along with the rest of the incoming students.

Budget Impact: Varies by Institution.

Primary Contact Person:

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North Coast Athletic Conference
Email: keri@northcoast.org

No. 1-3 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASON -- GENERAL PLAYING SEASON-DEFINING PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASON NON-CONSECUTIVE DAYS

Intent: The intent of this proposal is to be more permissible and flexible to enhance the overall student experience by allowing for a total of 114/144 days of athletically related contact with their coaching staff. These would be days that do not have to be consecutive in nature but must include at least one day off from activity/contact each week.

A. Bylaws: Amend 17.1, as follows:

17.1 General Playing-Season Regulations. Unless set forth differently in the applicable sports section in Bylaw 17, an institution shall conduct its playing season within the parameters stated in this section.

17.1.1 Playing Season. The playing (i.e., practice and competition) season for a particular sport **shall be defined by 114 team days**. ~~is the period of time between the date of an institution's first officially recognized practice session and the date of the institution's last practice session or date of competition, whichever occurs later.~~ **Any day in which athletically related activities occur with any student shall count as a day for that team.** An institution is permitted to conduct athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1.1) in each academic year only **on these days** ~~during the playing season~~ as regulated for each sport in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw. The institution must conduct the same playing season for varsity and subvarsity teams in the same sport.

17.1.1.1 Declaration of Playing Season. Each member institution shall determine the playing season for each of the sports referenced under Bylaw 17.02.13. Declaration of the institution's playing season in each such sport shall be on file in writing in the department of athletics before the beginning of the institution's playing season for that sport. Changes in the declaration for a particular sport are permissible and also shall be filed in writing in the office of the institution's director of athletics.

17.1.1.2 Segments of Playing Season. Segment limitations are applicable to all team and individual sports (listed under Bylaws 17.02.13.1 and 17.02.13.2), except for football, golf, rowing, tennis and sports with a winter NCAA championship . The segments shall be defined as follows:

[17.1.1.2-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Nontraditional Segment. The ~~remaining portion of the playing season shall be known as the "nontraditional segment."~~ **period outside the traditional segment when any days not used during the traditional segment may be used.**

17.1.1.3 Length of Playing Season.

17.1.1.3.1 Sports with a Fall NCAA Championship. The length of an institution's playing season shall be limited to a maximum of ~~18 weeks~~ **114 days**.

17.1.1.3.1.1 Segment Limitations. Except for the sport of football (see Bylaw 17.11) and unless otherwise noted in the applicable sport section, the playing season shall be conducted according to the following:

[17.1.1.3.1.1-(a) through 17.1.1.3.1.1-(b) unchanged.]

(1) First Permissible Practice and Competition. ~~February 1.~~ **End of traditional segment.**

[17.1.1.3.1.1-(b)-(2) unchanged.]

(3) Days may not be used five weekdays before the first day of the institution's final examination period for a regular academic term, through the end of that examination period.

(4) Days may not be used during any institutional break period.

17.1.1.3.2 Sports with a Winter NCAA Championship. The length of an institution's playing season shall be limited to a maximum of ~~19 weeks~~. **114 days.**

17.1.1.3.2.1 Season Limitations. Except for the sports of basketball, women's bowling, ice hockey and men's and women's wrestling (the applicable provisions are set forth in the specific sports sections) and unless otherwise noted in the applicable sport section, the playing season shall be conducted according to the following:

- (a) First Practice or Competition. ~~September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.~~ **The seventh day after the first day of classes.**
- (b) End of Season. All ~~practice and~~ competition shall be completed by the conclusion of the NCAA championship. An institution may continue ~~to practice and competition~~ beyond the NCAA championship provided it **has days unused**, ~~is within 19 weeks~~ and all practice ~~and competition~~ is completed not later than five weekdays before the first day of the institution's final examinations for the regular academic year. If an institution's academic year concludes with a nonregular academic term (e.g., May term), then all practice ~~and competition~~ shall be completed not later than the first day of final examinations for that nonregular academic term [see Bylaws 17.1.2-(c) and (d) regarding holiday, vacation and final examination periods].

17.1.1.3.3 Sports with a Spring NCAA Championship, except for Golf, Rowing and Tennis. The length of an institution's playing season shall be limited to a maximum of ~~19 weeks~~. **114 days.**

17.1.1.3.3.1 Segment Limitations. Unless otherwise noted in the applicable sport section, the playing season shall be conducted according to the following:

[17.1.1.3.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

- (1) First Date of Practice or Competition. ~~September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.~~ **January 15.**
- (2) End of Segment. All ~~practice and~~ competition shall be completed by the conclusion of the NCAA championship. **An institution may continue to practice beyond the NCAA championship provided it has days unused, and all practice is completed not later than five weekdays before the first day of the institution's final examinations for the regular academic year. If an institution's academic year concludes with a nonregular academic term (e.g., May term), then all practice shall be completed not later than the first day of final examinations for that nonregular academic term [see Bylaws 17.1.2-(c) and (d) regarding holiday, vacation and final examination periods].**

[17.1.1.3.3.1-(b) unchanged.]

- (1) First Practice and Competition. ~~September 7 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.~~ **The seventh day after the first day of classes.**
- (2) End of Segment. ~~All practice and competition shall be completed not later than five weekdays before the first day of the institution's final regular fall examination period [see Bylaws 17.1.2-(c) and 17.1.2-(d) regarding holiday, vacation and final examination periods.]~~ **Start of traditional segment.**
- (3) **Days may not be used five weekdays before the first day of the institution's final examination period for a regular academic term, through the end of that examination period.**

(4) Days may not be used during any institutional break period.

17.1.1.3.4 Golf, Rowing and Tennis. The length of an institution's playing season shall be limited to a maximum of ~~19 weeks~~. **114 days.**

17.1.1.3.4.1 Periods.

[17.1.1.3.4.1-(a) through 17.1.1.3.4.1-(b) unchanged.]

[17.1.1.3.4.1-(b)-(1) unchanged.]

- (2) End of Period. All ~~practice and~~ competition shall be completed by the conclusion of the NCAA championship. **An institution may continue to practice beyond the NCAA championship provided it has days unused, and all practice is completed not later than five weekdays before the first day of the institution's final examinations for the regular academic year. If an institution's academic year concludes with a nonregular academic term (e.g., May term), then all practice shall be completed not later than the first day of final examinations for that nonregular academic term [see Bylaws 17.1.2-(c) and (d) regarding holiday, vacation and final examination periods]**

17.1.2 General Regulations for Computing Playing Seasons. In determining the length of an institution's playing season, the following regulations shall apply:

- (a) Week. A week shall be defined by the institution as any consecutive seven-day period, regardless of the day on which the seven-day period begins. ~~The playing season, or its segments (or periods in golf, rowing and tennis), shall consist of consecutive weeks. Practice or competition during any part of a week shall be counted as a full week (e.g., practice or competition during nine weeks and one day shall be counted as 10 weeks). An institution may not redefine its week except in the following circumstances:~~
- ~~(1) During a segment (or period in golf, rowing and tennis) of the playing season, following a period of at least seven consecutive days that includes a vacation, final examination period or holiday period during which no athletically related activities occur [see Bylaw 17.1.2-(d)]; or~~
- ~~(2) Between the fall and spring period in golf, rowing and tennis and between segments of the playing season in other sports, provided the institution divides its practice and playing season into two distinct segments per Bylaw 17.1.1.2.~~
- (b) Total Combined Length. The total number of ~~weeks~~**days** for both segments (or periods in golf, rowing and tennis) of a playing season combined shall not exceed the maximum permitted in a particular sport;
- ~~(c) Holiday, Vacation Periods. In traditional and nontraditional segments (or periods in golf, rowing and tennis), any practice or competition during published vacation and holiday periods during the academic year shall be counted as part of the playing season. If practice or competition is not scheduled during any full week (seven consecutive days) that includes a vacation or holiday period, it neither shall be counted as part of the playing season nor shall constitute a break in a segment (or period in golf, rowing and tennis) [see Bylaw 17.1.2-(a)-(1)];~~
- ~~(d) Final Examination Periods:~~
- ~~(1) Traditional Segment. Any practice or competition during a final examination period during the academic year shall be counted as part of the playing season. If practice or competition is not scheduled during any full week (seven consecutive days) that includes a final examination period, it neither shall be counted as part of the playing season nor shall constitute a break in a segment [see Bylaw 17.1.2-(a)-(1)].~~
- ~~(2) Nontraditional Segment. An institution shall not conduct practice or competition during a final examination period. For any final examination period of a regular academic term (e.g., winter quarter, spring semester), an institution may not conduct practice and competition five weekdays before the first day of the final examination period. This period shall not be counted as part of the playing season nor shall constitute a break in the segment.~~
- ~~(e) Nontraditional Segment. The nontraditional segment shall be counted as part of the institution's declared playing season, regardless of whether competition occurs during that segment; and~~

[17.1.2-(f) relettered as 17.1.2-(c), unchanged.]

- (1) It shall be permissible to designate a single date for issuing equipment and for taking team pictures after the beginning of classes in the fall term or the day before the beginning of a segment or, in basketball and football, the day before the beginning of preseason practice **and shall not count as a day used.**
- (2) Exception for Sundays. If the day before the beginning of a segment is a Sunday, the member institution may designate the preceding Saturday for issuing equipment and taking team pictures. **Neither shall count as a day used.**

17.1.3 Postseason Activities.

[17.1.3-(a) through 17.1.3-(d) unchanged.]

- (1) Continue to practice (but may not compete against outside competition) ~~beyond its declared playing season, including the conference championship (if any),~~ without counting such practice against the institution's declared playing-season limitation as long as such practice begins not earlier than three weeks before the start of the NCAA championship in that sport.

[17.1.3-(d)-(2) through 17.1.3-(d)-(3) unchanged.]

[17.1.3-(e) unchanged.]

- (f) ~~Post-NCAA Championships Participation.~~ **Joint-Declaration Program.** ~~After the conclusion of an NCAA (or NAIA or NCCAA) championship in a sport, an institution may resume practice and/or competition in the sport, provided it is continuing its permissible playing season in the sport and provided the activity occurs during the academic year.~~ An institution in the joint-declaration program may participate in the championship for which the institution declared, even when the championship occurs outside the permissible NCAA playing season. Institutions in the joint-declaration program must abide by all other NCAA regulations for all sports, including the length of the playing season (see Bylaw 31.2.1.2);

[17.1.3-(g) unchanged.]

- (1) An institution may exclude a maximum of ~~three weeks of competition~~ **18 days** from its declared playing season for qualifying competition for the championship event; and

[17.1.3-(g)-(2) unchanged.]

[17.1.3-(h) unchanged.]

[17.1.4 through 17.1.6 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.4, as follows:

17.4 Basketball.

17.4.1 Length of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2 for winter NCAA championship sports.)

17.4.2 Preseason Practice. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2)

~~17.4.2.1 On-Court Practice. A member institution shall not commence on-court preseason basketball practice sessions before October 15.~~

~~17.4.2.1.1 Permissible Conditioning Activities. Team conditioning or physical-fitness activities supervised by coaching staff members may be conducted on or off court but shall not begin before October 15.~~

~~17.4.2.1.2 Prohibited Activities. Before the start of on-court preseason basketball practice per Bylaw 17.4.2.1, members of the institution's coaching staff may not be involved in athletically related activities with one or more team members at any location (see Bylaw 17.02.1.1).~~

~~17.4.2.1.2.1 Exception. Team promotional activities (e.g., autograph sessions, fan picture sessions, meeting with fans) per Bylaw 12.5.1 are permissible before the start of on-court preseason basketball practice per Bylaw 17.4.2.1, provided these promotional arrangements do not involve any of the practice activities prohibited under the provisions of Bylaw 17.4.2.1.2.~~

~~17.4.2.1.2.2 Exception -- Officiating Clinic. Before the start of on-court preseason basketball practice per Bylaw 17.4.2.1, student-athletes may observe an officiating clinic related to playing rules that is conducted by video conference, provided no student-athlete misses class time to observe the clinic.~~

17.4.3 First Contest. A member institution shall not play its first contest (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) against outside competition in basketball before November 8, except as provided under Bylaw 17.4.3.1. When November 8 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Monday, a member institution may play its first contest on the Friday immediately preceding November 8.

17.4.3.1 Exceptions. An institution is permitted to conduct exempted exhibitions, scrimmages or joint practices [see Bylaw 17.1.4.5.1-(c)] prior to the first permissible date for regular season competition.

17.4.4 End of Playing Season. ~~All practice and competition shall be completed by the conclusion of the NCAA Basketball Championship.~~ **(See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2.1)**

[17.4.5 through 17.4.6 unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 17.6, as follows:

17.6 Bowling, Women's. Regulations for computing the bowling playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1)

17.6.1 Length of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2 for winter NCAA championship sports.)

17.6.2 Preseason Practice. ~~A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in bowling before October 1.~~
(See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2)

17.6.3 First Date of Competition. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition in bowling before October 1.

[17.6.4 through 17.6.6 unchanged.]

D. Bylaws: Amend 17.11, as follows:

17.11 Football.

17.11.1 Definitions:

17.11.1.1 Prohibited Athletic Activities. In football, an institution shall not conduct prohibited athletic activities, as specified in the policies and procedures established and maintained by the Division III Football Committee and reviewed by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

17.11.1.2 Walk Through Session. A practice activity dedicated to reviewing plays and formations. During a walk-through, it is permissible for student-athletes to simulate positioning and offensive and defensive alignments, provided no conditioning or contact activities occur. Further, it is not permissible for student-athletes to wear any protective equipment (e.g., helmet, shoulder pads) or use any equipment related to the sport, except footballs.

17.11.1.3 Full Contact. Any contact that involves tackling to the ground.

17.11.1.4 Thud Contact. Contact that occurs at a competitive speed but remains above the waist and players stay on their feet.

17.11.2 Length of Playing Season. ~~(See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.1 for fall NCAA championship sports.)~~ **The playing season shall consist of 114 team days. The institution is limited to 16 days in the spring period. Any days not used in the traditional segment and spring period may be used for strength and conditioning activities as follows:**

(a) Days may not be used five weekdays before the first day of an institution's final examination period for a regular academic term, through the end of that examination period.

(b) Days may not be used during any institutional break period.

[17.11.3 through 17.11.7 unchanged.]

E. Bylaws: Amend 17.28, as follows:

17.28 Wrestling, Women's Regulations for computing the women's wrestling playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1)

17.28.1 Length of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2 for winter NCAA championship sports.)

17.28.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's wrestling before October 10.

17.28.2.1 Strength and Conditioning Activities. An institution may conduct strength and conditioning activities but not practice activities beginning the seventh day after the first day of classes and between the completion of the traditional segment and five weekdays before the first day of the final examination for the regular academic year. These days shall count against the 114 day limit.

17.28.3 First Date of Competition. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (match, exhibition or scrimmage) against outside competition in women's wrestling before November 1.

[17.28.4 through 17.28.6 unchanged.]

F. Bylaws: Amend 17.29, as follows:

17.29 Wrestling, Men's. Regulations for computing the men's wrestling playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1)

17.29.1 Length of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.2 for winter NCAA championship sports.)

17.29.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in men's wrestling before October 10.

17.29.2.1 Strength and Conditioning Activities. An institution may conduct strength and conditioning activities but not practice activities beginning the seventh day after the first day of classes and between the completion of the traditional segment and five weekdays before the first day of the final examination for the regular academic year. These days shall count against the 114 day limit.

17.29.3 First Date of Competition. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (match, exhibition or scrimmage) against outside competition in men's wrestling before November 1.

[17.29.4 through 17.29.6 unchanged.]

Source: Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association and Southern Athletic Association

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: Coaches are often more influential in the lives of their own student-athletes while at college. This legislation returns us to the temporary legislation of the COVID years and allows for a more flexible and more permissible approach to managing the entire season. We believe that in addition to enhancing the student-athletes overall experience in college, it will also aid in the retention of younger, more vulnerable student-athletes.

Budget Impact: none

Primary Contact Person:

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No. 1-4 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR COMPUTING PLAYING SEASONS - FLEX OPTION

Intent: To amend the current legislation of 18/19 total playing and practice season weeks to allow for a "flex option" permitting 17/18 weeks plus 6 "flex" days for all sports other than football.

Bylaws: Amend General Regulations for Computing Playing Seasons, as follows:

17.1.2 General Regulations for Computing Playing Seasons. In determining the length of an institution's playing season, the following regulations shall apply:

(a) Week. A week shall be defined by the institution as any consecutive seven-day period, regardless of the day on which the seven-day period begins. The playing season, or its segments (or periods in golf, rowing and tennis), shall consist of consecutive weeks. Practice or competition during any part of a week shall be counted as a full week (e.g., practice or competition during nine weeks and one day shall be counted as 10 weeks). An institution may not redefine its week except in the following circumstances:

- (1) During a segment (or period in golf, rowing and tennis) of the playing season, following a period of at least seven consecutive days that includes a vacation, final-examination period or holiday period during which no athletically related activities occur [see Bylaw 17.1.2-(d)]; or
- (2) Between the fall and spring period in golf, rowing and tennis and between segments of the playing season in other sports, provided the institution divides its practice and playing season into two distinct segments per Bylaw 17.1.1.2.

(b) Flex Option. An institution may choose to designate one of its permissible maximum number of weeks as a flex week, permitting six "flex days" to be used at any time during the academic year with the following limitations:

- (1) The use of a flex day shall not count against the use of a week. A maximum of two flex days are permitted for a week to be exempt from counting;**
- (2) Flex days are counted against a team, not an individual. Use of a flex day by any student-athlete shall count toward the total number of allowable team flex days;**
- (3) A flex day cannot be used for a date of competition against an outside team, including an alumni/ae team, regardless of format used (e.g., contest, scrimmage, exhibition game, joint practice);**
- (4) A flex day cannot be used during an exam period or within five weekdays before an exam period;**

- (5) Use of a flex day may be used at any time during the nontraditional segment. It may be used in addition to the maximum dates of practice permitted. If used in combination with any of the 16 permissible dates in a given week, the week must be counted toward the maximum permissible weeks;**
- (6) A flex day shall be counted separately from the athletically related activities exceptions [see Bylaw 17.02.1.1.1];**
- (7) Fundraising activities as defined in Bylaw 17.02.1.1.2 shall not count as flex days; and**
- (8) Voluntary strength and conditioning activities as defined in Bylaw 17.02.1.1.4 shall not count as flex days.**

[17.1.2-(b) through 17.1.2-(f) relettered as 17.1.2-(c) through 17.1.2-(g), unchanged.]

Source: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: Concern about the need for increased flexibility to the current playing and practice season model has long been a topic of conversation in the division. The inability of coaches to make early and ongoing connections with student-athletes has been a particular point of frustration. The challenge of maximizing weeks around holiday periods is another common lament. The burden of tracking of days vs. weeks for multiple sports by compliance staff wearing many other hats was considered unreasonable. The management of competing needs and resources provided by athletic trainers, SIDs and facility managers also has to be considered. This "Flex Option" is a simplified hybrid which permits flexibility for student-athletes and coaches to connect before and after the season, with the goal of improving mental health, retention, and team-building. It gives coaches the tools to maximize the weeks allotment to the greatest efficiency. It also provides a reasonable number of days to track that will not over-tax staff, expanding but not overcomplicating the framework for what is currently in place. Finally, it remains consistent with the Division III philosophy by allowing student-athletes ample time during the off-season to engage in activities other than a sport but still promoting team connection.

Budget Impact: None

Primary Contact Person:

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 Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference
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No. 1-5 COMMITTEE -- NOMINATING COMMITTEE -- COMPOSITION -- AMEND COMMITTEE'S COMPOSITION

Intent: To amend the composition of the Nominating Committee to include at least one member from each of the 10 regions (based on sport committee regions model) to cultivate more committee nominations and appointments representative of the membership.

Bylaws: Amend 21.9.5.9.1, as follows:

21.9.5.9.1 Composition. The Nominating Committee shall consist of ~~ten~~^{eight} members, including at least one former NCAA officer or former member of the NCAA Council or Management Council, one current member of the Management Council, and one president or chancellor. ~~A maximum of five members may be at large.~~ The committee shall include at least ~~four~~^{three} men, at least ~~four~~^{three} women, and at least one member of an ethnic minority. At least one member shall be appointed from each of the ~~ten conference based geographic regions~~^{four geographical regions per Constitution 4.13.1.1}. A current member of the NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity for selections to the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

- (a) Conference based geographic regions. The nominating committee shall establish ten regions based on conference affiliation and primarily modeled on sport championship region alignments. The establishment of these regions and any amendments are subject to approval of Management Council.**

Source: Empire 8 and Great Northeast Athletic Conference.

Effective Date: August 1, 2023

Rationale: This committee structure will increase the number of nominations for all committees and better serve the entire membership. Having at least one representative from each sport committee region creates a structure that will increase the number of nominations. This model creates a natural protocol for the Nominating Committee representative to regularly communicate with their region ADs and commissioners regarding vacancies and nominations. Institutions and conferences will also have the benefit of knowing precisely who their representative is on the Nominating Committee, further encouraging and improving the entire process. Moreover, this will ensure

more equitable conference representation on all NCAA Committees creating a governance structure reflective of the diversity of the membership.

Budget Impact:

Primary Contact Person:

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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 Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation. Interpretations related to the proposed legislation in this Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation may be requested via electronic mail to sturner@ncaa.org or jmyers@ncaa.org. When submitting such a request please include the proposal number in question, your institution's name and your title.