



2008-09 NCAA DIII Legislative Voting Results

Proposal Number	Title	Status	Effective Date	Intent	Rationale
2009-1	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS — FOREIGN TOURS — SANCTIONED OUTSIDE-TEAM TOURS	Adopted	Immediate; contracts signed before April 15, 2008, for future outside team tours may be honored in accordance with the previous rule.	To establish limits on the number of student-athletes from the same member institution who may participate on an outside team tour without requiring the tour to be certified as an institutional tour, as specified.	Prior to the adoption of 2006 NCAA Convention Division III Proposal No. NC-69, a member institution was charged with its foreign-tour opportunity in a sport and had to apply the once-in-three-years limitation if that institution was represented by more than a limited number of student-athletes on an outside team participating in a foreign tour. The current legislation does not count an outside-team tour against the once-in-three-years institutional foreign-tour limitation unless every member of the outside team participating in the tour is a student-athlete from the same institution. This proposal reinstates the previous limitations on the number of student-athletes from one institution that may participate on an outside-team tour. This change is necessary based on reported concerns that Division III coaches have been coaching outside-team tours comprised of a majority of student-athletes from their own team and only a few athletes from other teams. Under this proposal, if a coach chooses to participate in a foreign tour with more student-athletes from their institution than allowed by the proposed limits, he or she could still use the institutional foreign-tour legislation (with the once-in-three-years limitation) in order to do so. Under the proposal, it is also true that if an institution has more student-athletes than allowed by the limit participating on an outside team foreign tour, it would count as the institution's foreign tour against the once-in-three-year limitation.



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2009-2	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS — ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES — SPECIFIC WORKOUT PROGRAMS	Adopted	Immediate	To specify that an institutional staff member may design a voluntary individual-specific workout program for a student-athlete, but may not conduct the individual's workout outside the declared playing season.	Current legislation allows coaches to design a voluntary general individual-workout program for student-athletes as opposed to a specific workout program for specific days. This proposal would help to ensure the health and safety of student-athletes by allowing the out of season workout program to be tailored to their specific needs and limitations. By allowing specific workout programs to be designed, the institutional staff member would be able to provide a program that gives more accurate guidance for the individual student-athlete and would therefore be focused on that individual's well-being. The health and safety of student-athletes would benefit from having a workout program tailored to the individual's specific needs. This would not change the prohibition against conducting out of season workouts nor would it change the voluntary requirement of all out of season workouts. If adopted, the immediate effective date would allow institutions to take advantage of this change in the spring and summer of 2009.
2009-3	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS — PRESEASON PRACTICE — TRADITIONAL SEGMENT — CROSS COUNTRY, FIELD HOCKEY, GOLF, RUGBY, SOCCER, TENNIS AND WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL	Defeated	August 1, 2009	In cross country, field hockey, golf, rugby, soccer, tennis and women's volleyball, to establish the date of August 15 as the first permissible date for preseason practice.	The practice opportunities formula is currently used to determine the first permissible practice date for the traditional segments in cross country, field hockey, golf (if the traditional segment is conducted in the fall), rugby, soccer, tennis (if the traditional segment is conducted in the fall), and women's volleyball. The current counting formula, which counts back from an institution's first contest or date of competition, is confusing to calculate and often results in misapplication of the rule. This proposal would establish a uniform start date of August 15 which would allow for clear annual planning of the first practice date by institutional athletic departments, student-athletes, coaches and all other campus constituents.
2009-4	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS — ICE HOCKEY — PRESEASON PRACTICE — OCTOBER 15	Adopted	August 1, 2009	In ice hockey, to specify that an institution shall not commence practice sessions before October 15.	Implementation of a common practice start date creates an equal playing field for institutions and eliminates a potential competitive advantage for institutions able to start practice sessions earlier due to varying institutional calendars. Additionally, it provides student-athletes appropriate time to adjust and prepare for fall academic responsibilities.



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2009-5	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS — GENERAL PLAYING SEASON REGULATIONS — REQUIRED DAYS OFF — ALL SPORTS — CONFERENCE AND POSTSEASON TOURNAMENTS	Withdrawn	August 1, 2009	To specify that an institution is not required to provide student-athletes one day off per week during conference championships or postseason tournaments.	Current legislation specifies that all countable athletically related activities are prohibited during one calendar day per week during the playing season with the exception of NCAA championships. The reason for the exception is to accommodate the travel and practice requirements inherent with NCAA championship competition as well as the unpredictability of advancing in those championships that are comprised of multiple rounds or levels. Conference championships and postseason tournaments share the same travel and practice requirements as well as the unpredictability of whether a team qualifies for the competition itself and/or advances to additional rounds thereby making it extremely difficult and even impractical to insert a day off. Adopting this exception will address these concerns.
2009-6	ELIGIBILITY — CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY — MINIMUM AMOUNT OF PARTICIPATION — COMPETITION DURING THE NONTRADITIONAL SEGMENT — BASEBALL, FIELD HOCKEY, LACROSSE, SOCCER, SOFTBALL AND WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL	Adopted	August 1, 2009	In the sports of baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and women's volleyball, to specify that a season of participation shall not be counted when a student-athlete participates in the one date of competition during the nontraditional segment.	The proposed legislation would allow a student-athlete to compete in the one date of competition during the nontraditional segment in baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and women's volleyball without using a season of participation. These are the only sports that allow only one date of competition in the nontraditional segment. The current legislation allows a student-athlete to participate in practice before and after the date of participation in the nontraditional segment, but participating in the one date of competition triggers the use of a season of participation. In contrast, during the traditional segment, a student-athlete may practice and compete in permissible scrimmages up until the first date of competition and not use a season of participation. In some sports, such participation may include many weeks of practice and multiple scrimmages. There is no competitive advantage gained by allowing competition in the nontraditional segment date of competition, as this contest does not figure into win/loss records or count toward championship selection, nor do the statistics count toward team or individual totals. Changing this rule would bring greater consistency to the application of the bylaw to both the traditional and nontraditional segments.



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2009-7	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP — DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS — EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN — REMOVAL OF ARCHERY, BADMINTON, SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING, TEAM HANDBALL FROM LIST OF EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN AND ADDITION OF EQUESTRIAN TO LIST OF EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN	Adopted	August 1, 2009	In Parts A, B, D, E, F, G, H and J of the proposal, to remove archery, badminton, synchronized swimming and team handball as emerging sports for women and to eliminate other specified legislation associated with these sports, as specified; further, in Parts C and I of the proposal, to add equestrian as an emerging sport for women.	In 1999, equestrian was added in Divisions I and II as an emerging sport for women. Over the past eight years, an average of 42 institutions reported sponsoring varsity equestrian with an average of 23 in Division III. The other divisions have been successful integrating equestrian and complying with NCAA regulations. The regulations for equestrian implemented in Divisions I and II will serve as a model for Division III while still giving consideration to the Division III philosophy in certain areas. If adopted, this will provide additional participation opportunities across all divisions and enhance the student-athlete experience. NCAA regulations require that emerging sports gain championship status within 10 years or show steady progress toward that goal. Four sports on the original list, (archery, badminton, synchronized swimming and team handball) have seen minimal sponsorship growth over the past 14 years. In July 2007, the institutions, conferences and national governing bodies supporting these four sports were notified that they needed to provide a minimum of 10 commitment letters from institutions by July 2008 and that failure to meet that request would result in a recommendation for their removal from the list. None of the four sports were able to meet this requirement.
2009-8	EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS — SELECTION OF TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS PARTICIPATION — SELECTION CRITERIA — AVAILABILITY OF DATA THROUGHOUT SEASON	Withdrawn	August 1, 2009	To specify that the data included in the NCAA computer statistical database used for championships selection criteria be made available to each institution throughout the season.	Computer ranking information is used as a tool, and not the ultimate decision-making piece, when selecting Pool B and Pool C teams or seeding for teams for NCAA championships. The proposed legislation would: (1) allow coaches to assist the regional/national committees to ensure that there were no errors in the reporting system (scores reported incorrectly or regional games not properly designated); (2) allow coaches to better understand how their team matched up against other teams in the region throughout the season; (3) help coaches, in particular new and part-time coaches, better understand the NCAA championship selection process; (4) assist coaches who want to improve or strengthen their future schedules; and (5) minimize or eliminate confusion caused by independent Web sites, which attempt to mirror the NCAA data (but often fail). Currently, coaches and administrators play a guessing game in these areas. They should have a better understanding of the system and process, which could enable their opportunities to excel in their chosen fields.



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2009-9	PERSONNEL — CONDUCT OF ATHLETICS PERSONNEL — SPORTS-SAFETY TRAINING	Adopted	August 1, 2009	To specify that each head coach shall be certified in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED).	Legislation requiring first aid, CPR and AED certification supports the Division III philosophy statement, specifically student-athlete safety and well-being. A survey of the NCAA death claims since 1992 reports 60 percent of all nonvehicle-related deaths have been due to heart-related conditions and 83 percent of all deaths occurred during practice or conditioning. Similar legislation was proposed both in 2007 and 2008 without approval. This proposal does not require the certified individual to be present during athletically related activities, nor does it specify the certifying organization. Safety and well-being of student-athletes are of the utmost concern; this proposal helps to strengthen these areas at a very minimum by requiring any individual designated as a head coach (full time, part time or volunteer) to be certified in first aid, CPR and AED use. Division III grant and initiative funding may be used to assist in funding the necessary certification courses. The proposal does not require that an institution purchase an AED (only that each head coach be certified in AED use). It is also important to note that Division III grant and initiative funding may be used to purchase an AED if an institution so desired.



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2009-10	RECRUITING — TRYOUT EXCEPTIONS — FACILITY USAGE BY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION	Adopted	Immediate	To establish a tryout exception that allows an institution's athletics department staff members or representatives of its athletics interests to be involved in the conduct and administration of the use of a member institution's facilities for physical activities by a group that includes prospective student-athletes under specified conditions.	Currently, athletics department staff members may not sell concessions or work at a scorer's table for events ranging from Age Group Swimming Invitationals to Soccer Club Tournaments involving a group that includes prospective student-athletes. Division III institutions depend on such activities to generate critical revenue for their departments, and for these activities to happen, it is often necessary for a member of the athletics department's staff to administer aspects related to the activity. The current legislation allows institutions to hire an outside consultant to conduct and administer these activities, thus disproportionately disadvantaging institutions lacking resources for such expenses. There are many areas of the country, both urban and rural, where higher education institution's athletics facilities are the only facilities that offer feasible opportunities for individuals to participate on a specific turf field or on a safe track or swimming pool. The existing legislation hinders access to these facilities and thus hinders community relationships between higher educational institutions and our neighbors. The current legislation is counter to activities that our staffs are allowed to do through existing camps and clinics legislation. To be reasonable and consistent, there should be an exception to the tryout legislation with an immediate effective date.
2009-11	RECRUITING — TRYOUT EXCEPTIONS — USE OF FACILITIES FOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO A NONSPONSORED SPORT	Adopted	Immediate	To specify that the use of an institution's facilities for physical activities by a group that includes prospective student-athletes shall not be considered a tryout, provided the physical activities are related to a sport that is not sponsored by the institution on the varsity intercollegiate level.	Establishing an exception to the tryout restrictions in those instances in which the physical activities are related to a sport that is not sponsored by the institution on the intercollegiate level would not diminish either the intent or impact of the tryout restrictions, but rather would allow athletics department staff members an additional level of involvement in the conduct of these events, most of which are being hosted for fundraising purposes. The immediate effective date would allow institutions to take advantage of this exception without any detriment. Because this is permissive legislation, there is not a need to delay its effective date until August.



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2009-12	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS — END OF REGULAR SEASON — ALL SPORTS WITH A FALL NONTRADITIONAL SEGMENT	Referred - Final	August 1, 2009	To specify that all sports with a nontraditional segment in the fall must complete all practice and competition by the first date of final examinations for the fall term at the institution.	Redefining the conclusion of the fall nontraditional segment by linking it to the academic calendar is consistent with the current legislation for the spring nontraditional segment. Additionally, by changing the end of the fall nontraditional segment from October 30 to a date that coincides with the institution's academic calendar allows institutions on quarter academic calendars the same scheduling flexibility as those on a semester academic calendar. There is no change to the overall week limitation for the playing season.