MINUTES OF THE

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Teleconference April 21, 2010

Participants:

Mark Dienhart, University of St. Thomas (Minnesota)
Amy Friedman, Colonial States Athletic Conference
Dan Fulks, Transylvania University
John Meany, Worcester State College
Julie Muller, North Atlantic Conference
Lori Runksmeier, New England College, chair
Darryl Sims, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
Amy Huchthausen, NCAA, recording secretary
Jeff Myers, NCAA

Phil Tonucci, Bowdoin College, was unable to participate.

[Note: These minutes contain only action taken (formal votes or stated "sense of the meeting") in accordance with NCAA policy regarding minutes of all Association entities. While certain items on the committee's agenda were acted on at various times throughout the meeting, all final actions within a given topic are combined in these minutes for convenience or reference.]

The NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee meeting was called to order at approximately 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, by the chair, Ms. Runksmeier. All members were present as noted above.

1. Review Minutes from March 17, 2010, Teleconference.

   It was VOTED

   "That the minutes of the March 17 teleconference be approved as written."

2. Interpretive Issue – Application of Transfer Exception – Remained at Previous Institution. The Interpretations and Legislation Committee reviewed an issue presented by staff regarding the application of the legislation in 4-4 or 4-2-4 transfer situations when a student-athlete has left an institution while under a disciplinary suspension. The committee agreed with the staff's position that the question of whether a student-athlete is eligible had he or she remained at the previous institution is solely dependent on the institution from which the student-athlete is transferring. The terms of any suspension

are a matter of institutional discretion and, therefore, each institution must determine a student-athlete's academic and athletic eligibility based on the applicable policies, procedures, conditions and/or terms that apply to each situation. Further, the committee agreed with the staff's position that in the case of a 4-2-4 transfer in which a student-athlete enrolls in a two-year college while under suspension from the first four-year institution, once a student-athlete enrolls in a junior college he or she has formally departed the first institution. The first institution must, therefore, respond to the question about the student-athlete's academic and athletic eligibility based on the time the student-athlete actually departed the institution. The committee noted that institutional policy and discretion are the guiding principles on these issues in determining the specifics of the suspension and whether the terms have been fulfilled. Finally, the committee agreed it was not necessary to issue a formal interpretation on this matter at this time.

3. Interpretive Issue – Observation of Enrolled Student-Athletes – Organized Competition Directed or Supervised by Athletics Staff. The committee considered the issue of whether it is permissible for an institution's coach to serve as tournament director or manager of a noncollegiate athletics event in which enrolled student-athletes participate. With the adoption of NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2010-3 the tryout legislation was significantly deregulated. Accordingly, institutional coaching staff members are now permitted to be more involved with noncollegiate events that involve prospective student-athletes. Because these events may also include student-athletes, institutions must determine to what extent, if any, their coaches may be involved in events that include student-athletes from their own institutions. While Proposal No. 2010-3 provided flexibility for a coach to be involved with these events from a recruiting perspective, the regulations for enrolled student-athletes and athletically related activities remain unchanged. Therefore, the committee agreed that a coach could not serve as a tournament manager or director under NCAA Division III Bylaw 17.02.1.1.1-(d) in that such duties, regardless of title, are tantamount to directing or supervising the activity which is not permissible.

It was VOTED

"To recommend the NCAA Division III Management Council approve the following official interpretation:

Observation of Enrolled Student-Athletes in Organized Activity. The NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee confirmed that a coach may not serve in an administrative capacity (e.g., tournament director, event manager) for an outside team, league, activity or event in which student-athletes from the coach's sport participate."

[References: NCAA Division III Bylaws 17.02.1.1.1-(d) and 17._.8.1.1 and a staff interpretation (6/25/93, Item No. a)]

4. Review Revisions to Committee Policies and Procedures. The committee approved the addition of three provisions to its policies and procedures to clarify the interpretive process in relation to the student-athlete reinstatement, waiver and infractions reporting processes. The committee noted the approval of these provisions will also clarify that the interpretive process is consistent in all three divisions.

5. Next Teleconference. The committee's next teleconference will be rescheduled to accommodate for upcoming NCAA Regional Rules Seminars and conference meetings.

6. Adjournment. The teleconference was adjourned at approximately 2:36 p.m.

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