

**Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference
Compliance Administrators Summer Meeting**
Chair – Jeni Walsh, University of Mary

Wednesday, July 8
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
DoubleTree – Bloomington/Minneapolis South
Plaza 1

Agenda.

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks. (Jeni Walsh)
2. Spry Presentation. (Lyle Adams)
3. [2025-26 Violations Report](#). (Allison Cordes) [Supplement No. 1]
4. Forms Review. (Walsh) [Supplement No. 2a & 2b]
5. NSIC Academic Awards Implementation Feedback Discussion. (Cordes) [Supplement No. 3]
 - a. Team of Academic Excellence Award Concept Under FAR Consideration. [Supplement No. 4]
6. NCAA Updates. (Cordes)
 - a. DII Eligibility Review. [Supplement No. 5a & 5b]
 - b. DII Legislation Committee June Meeting.
7. NCAA Legislation – Year in Review & 2027 Proposals. (Cordes)
 - a. [Non-Controversial Legislation](#).
 - b. Emergency Legislation – Football Transfer Window. [Supplement No. 6]
 - c. 2026 Convention Proposals. [Supplement No. 7]
8. Unofficial Visits Involving PSA Prior to June 15 of Junior Year Interpretation Discussion. (Walsh) [Supplement No. 8]
9. Academic Portal Transition to CA 2.0 Discussion. (Walsh)
10. Students Who are Undergraduates/Graduates in the Same Academic Year. (Allison Meadows)
11. Documents to Submit. (Cordes)
12. Miscellaneous.

2025-26 Violations Report & Five Year Comparison Data

2025-26 Final Violation Numbers	
Amateurism	1
Recruiting	22
Eligibility	10
Financial Aid	1
Awards/Benefits	1
Playing Seasons	11
Other	2
2025-26 Total Violations	48

2024-25 Final Violation Numbers

Amateurism	1
Recruiting	18
Eligibility	5
Financial Aid	0
Awards/Benefits	3
Playing Seasons	15
Other	1

2024-25 Total Violations 43

2023-24 Final Violation Numbers

Amateurism	2
Recruiting	22
Eligibility	5
Financial Aid	3
Awards/Benefits	1
Playing Seasons	12
Other	3

2023-24 Total Violations 48

2022-23 Final Violation Numbers

Amateurism	1
Recruiting	10
Eligibility	9
Financial Aid	1
Awards/Benefits	1
Playing Seasons	8
Other	2

2022-23 Total Violations 32

2021-22 Final Violation Numbers

Amateurism	1
Recruiting	15
Eligibility	6
Financial Aid	1
Awards/Benefits	0
Playing Seasons	11
Other	2

2021-22 Total Violations 36

2020-21 Final Violation Numbers

Amateurism	3
Recruiting	14
Eligibility	3
Financial Aid	0
Awards/Benefits	0
Playing Seasons	4
Other	2

2020-21 Total Violations 26



The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference requires member institutions to check the academic and athletic record of all student-athletes who transfer to its member institutions from other colleges or universities. This information assists us in evaluating an individual's eligibility as a transfer student-athlete and also aids in the determination of the number of seasons of athletic participation already exhausted. **Your assistance in securing this information is greatly appreciated.**

Student-Athlete Name	NCAA ID # or DOB	Sport(s)
		Yes No
1. Is this student-athlete under disciplinary suspension at your institution?		
2. Does this student-athlete have an outstanding suspension per their sport's playing rules (i.e., red card)?		
3. Did this student-athlete graduate from your institution in an academic discipline as opposed to a vocational discipline? If yes, please provide the graduation date.		
4. Has this student-athlete's sport been discontinued or never been offered at your institution?		
5. Did this student-athlete pass at least 9 credit hours in their last full-time term of enrollment?		
6. Did this student-athlete receive relief related to COVID-19 at your institution? If yes, please specify.		
7. Did this student-athlete enroll in your institution as a freshman? If no, proceed to #8. If yes, proceed to #9.		

8. Name of Institution(s) that the student-athlete previously transferred from:

Please indicate the appropriate classification.

4-Year Institution: ☐

2-Year Institution: ☐

9. List the academic terms the student-athlete attended your institution (example: Fall 2019, Spring 2020); please indicate full-time or part-time.

Term #1: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #3: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #5: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #7: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #9: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐
Term #2: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #4: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #6: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #8: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #10: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐

10. Was attendance continuous? Yes: ☐ No: ☐ If No, please explain: _____

11. Did this student-athlete practice or compete while at your institution? Yes: ☐ No: ☐

12. Participation records at your institution:

Academic Year	Sport	Practiced	Competed	Charged with Season of Competition	Received Athletics Aid
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____

I certify the above statements are correct and complete in all respects as based on information provided at our institution.

Name: _____ Title: _____ Institution: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please Return to: _____ (NSIC Member Institution)

Name: _____ Email: _____



The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference requires member institutions to check the academic and athletic record of all student-athletes who transfer to its member institutions from other colleges or universities. This information assists us in evaluating an individual's eligibility as a transfer student-athlete and also aids in the determination of the number of seasons of athletic participation already exhausted. **Your assistance in securing this information is greatly appreciated.**

Student-Athlete Name

NCAA ID # or DOB

Sport(s)

	Yes	No
1. Do you grant permission to our institution to contact this student?		
2. Did this student sign an athletics aid agreement to attend your institution?		
3. Did this student-athlete graduate from your institution? If yes, please provide the graduation date.		
4. Upon departure, was this student-athlete in good academic standing at your institution?		
5. Did this student-athlete pass 9-credit hours in the previous full-time semester?		
6. Would this student be eligible to compete if they had stayed at your institution? If no, please explain:		
7. Was this student-athlete recruited by your institution?		
8. Is this student-athlete under disciplinary suspension (as opposed to academic reasons)?		
9. Does this student-athlete have an outstanding suspension per their sport's playing rules (i.e., red card)?		
10. Has this student-athlete ever been declared ineligible due to a positive NCAA drug test?		
11. Has this student-athlete received relief related to COVID-19 at your institution? If yes, please specify.		
12. Did this student-athlete enroll in your institution as a freshman? If no, proceed to #13. If yes, proceed to #14.		

13. Name of Institution(s) that the student-athlete previously transferred from:

Please indicate the appropriate classification:

4-Year Institution: ☐

2-Year Institution: ☐

14. List the academic terms the student-athlete attended your institution (example: Fall 2019, Spring 2020); please indicate full-time or part-time.

Term #1: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #3: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #5: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #7: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #9: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐
Term #2: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #4: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #6: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #8: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐	Term #10: _____ FT: ☐ PT: ☐

15. Participation records at your institution:

Academic Year	Sport	Practiced	Competed	Charged with Season of Competition	Received Athletics Aid
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____
		Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____	Yes: ____ No: ____

I certify the above statements are correct and complete in all respects as based on information provided at our institution.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Institution: _____

DI: ☐ DII: ☐ DIII: ☐ NAIA: ☐

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please Return to:

(NSIC Member Institution)

Name: _____

Email: _____

NSIC Academic Awards

3.3.5 Dr. Britton Scholar-Athlete Award for Academic Excellence and the Willis R. Kelly Scholar-Athlete Award for Academic Excellence.

3.3.5.1 Each full member institution selects its single male nominee from a conference sponsored sport based on the criteria listed below. The nominees shall comprise the men's NSIC Honor Student-Athlete Award winners. The award is named for Dr. William Britton who was the Institutional Representative for Bemidji State University.

3.3.5.2 Each full member institution selects its single female nominee from a conference sponsored sport based on the criteria listed below. The nominees shall comprise the women's NSIC Honor Student-Athlete Award winners. The award is named for Willis R. Kelly who was the Athletic Director at the University of Minnesota-Morris.

3.3.5.3 The NSIC Subcommittee, empowered by the Conference Council to make the NSIC award selections, shall be made up of the Faculty Athletic Representatives Council.

3.3.5.4 The committee shall select one recipient for each award. There shall not be co-recipients.

3.3.5.5 Timeline.

3.3.5.5.1 By March 10, the conference office initiates the process by emailing FARs the forms for nominating individuals.

3.3.5.5.2 By April 1, FARs will submit to the conference office the nominations.

3.3.5.5.3 Within five business days of April 1, the conference office will send out the nominations to the FARs.

3.3.5.5.4 On April 13, the conference office will send a reminder to those FARs who have not sent in their votes.

3.3.5.5.5 By April 15, FARs will submit their vote electronically to the conference office.

3.3.5.5.6 Within two business days, the conference office will send the results to the FARs and others.

3.3.5.6 Processes.

3.3.5.6.1 The FAR may not vote for a student-athlete from their own institution.

3.3.5.6.2 FARs will vote electronically for three candidates for each award. These will be numbered 1 for top choice, 2 for second choice and 3 for third choice. No ties are allowed.

3.3.5.6.3 Conference office will convert the votes from a 1, 2, 3 ranking to a 3, 2, 1 ranking. The votes will then be tallied.

3.3.5.6.4 The student-athlete with the highest total will be the award winner.

3.3.5.6.5 If there is a tie for top spot, the student-athletes (in the tie) with the most number of 3's after conversion will be the award winner. If a tie still exists, the FARs will

- vote again only for those student-athletes in the tied position. Voting will be concluded within one week.
- 3.3.5.7** The Britton Award for Academic Excellence and the Kelly Award for Academic Excellence includes an appropriate plaques (one for school and one for award winner).
- 3.3.5.8** The minimum qualifications for these awards are:
- 3.3.5.8.1** Minimum GPA of 3.5 in undergraduate at the NSIC institution through the most recent academic period, and 3.75 graduate GPA. If graduate, must include both graduate and undergraduate GPA. The student must have at least completed their academic junior year, at the end of the spring term as required by the member institution. *(Revised: 7/12/2023)*
 - 3.3.5.8.2** Transfer students must have completed at least one year at the NSIC institution.
 - 3.3.5.8.3** Evidence of academic excellence beyond the GPA (scholarships, prizes and recognition).
 - 3.3.5.8.4** Evidence of participation in the life of the institution (all post-secondary schools attended) other than athletics.
 - 3.3.5.8.5** Evidence of athletic performance.
 - 3.3.5.8.6** Participation in at least 2/3 of the varsity events of the student's primary sport in the previous season, whether or not that season is completed.
 - 3.3.5.8.7** Other evidence that might support the nomination (active in the life of the non-university community, etc.).
- 3.3.5.9** In the selection process, more weight will be given to academic performance (60%) than to the other combined criteria (40%); athletic accomplishments to be given no more than 20% of the weight.
- 3.3.5.10** The award can only be won one time in a student-athlete's career.

- 3.3.6 NSIC/Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award.** The NSIC/Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award ~~is an undergraduate award this is~~ will be awarded to academic senior student-athletes. They must have a cumulative ~~undergraduate~~ GPA of 3.75 or higher at the point of nomination. Award recipients will receive a certificate and a watch from the NSIC. The award will be presented annually each spring (including associate members). A student-athlete can only receive the Myles Brand Award once in their career. *(Revised: 7/12/2023)*
- 3.3.6.1** Academically the student-athlete must have completed at least one full academic year ~~of undergraduate work~~ at their current institution (student must be in at least their 3rd academic-year-semester at their institution). *(Adopted: 7/12/2023)*
 - 3.3.6.2** Athletically the student-athlete is in at least their second year of competition at their current institution. *(Adopted: 7/12/2023)*

3.3.7 NSIC Elite 18 Award. The NSIC Elite 18 Award recognizes outstanding student-athletes in the conference. These student-athletes have achieved at the championship level in the classroom and in their sport. The NSIC Elite 18 Award is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average in each sponsored sport according to the following criteria. *Note: The award description will be automatically updated in the NSIC Operational Standards for the Conduct of Sports to reflect any changes to the number of sports sponsored by the conference.*

3.3.7.1 Selection Criteria.

- 3.3.7.1.1** Academically the student-athlete ~~has achieved at least sophomore status as defined by their own institution.~~ must have completed at least one full academic year at their current institution (student must be in at least their 3rd academic-year-semester at their institution).
- 3.3.7.1.2** Athletically the student-athlete is in their second year of competition at their current institution.
- 3.3.7.1.3** Athletically the student-athlete is an active member on the roster and a member of the designated squad size for the sport at the championship site.
- 3.3.7.1.4** A student-athlete may win the award only once per academic year even if they participate in more than one sport.
- 3.3.7.1.5** Grade point average is based on the cumulative undergraduate grade point average at the time of nomination as calculated by each institution. Grade point average calculations will be based on a 4.00 scale and will be reported to two decimal places. Graduate-students are eligible, based on their undergraduate GPA.
- 3.3.7.1.6** In the event of a tie based on grade point average, the award is presented to the student-athlete with the highest total number of undergraduate credit hours earned as calculated by each institution. *(Revised: 7/15/21)*
- 3.3.7.1.7** If a tie still exists after looking at the total number of credit hours earned, all student-athletes who are tied shall be presented with the NSIC Elite 18 Award.
- 3.3.7.2** The following table indicates who is eligible for the NSIC Elite 18 Award. For team-oriented sports, student-athletes who are an active member on the roster and a member of the designated squad size for the sport at the conference championship site will be eligible for the award. For individual sports, student-athletes who participate at the conference meet will be eligible for the award. For football, student-athletes who are members of the North Division Champion team(s), the South Division Champion team(s) and Overall Conference Championship team(s) are eligible. For wrestling, student-athletes who are members of the Overall Conference Championship team(s) and those named to first or second team all-conference are eligible. Each institution is limited to one nomination per sport. Affiliate members are eligible for the NSIC Elite 18 Award.

Note: The selection criteria will be automatically updated in the NSIC Operational Standards for the Conduct of Sports to reflect any changes to the championship formats.

Fall Sports	NSIC Finals Site Format	NSIC Elite 18 Award Eligibility
(M) Cross Country	Conference Meet (15 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
(W) Cross Country	Conference Meet (16 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
Football	North Champion(s), South Champion(s), Overall champion(s)	Only participants on north/south division and overall conference championship team(s) eligible
(W) Soccer	Conference Tournament (4 teams)	Only participants on four teams at conference tournament finals site eligible
Volleyball	Conference Tournament (4 teams)	Only participants on four teams at conference tournament finals site eligible
Winter Sports	NSIC Finals Site Format	NSIC Elite 18 Award Eligibility
(M) Basketball	Conference Tournament (8 teams)	Only participants on eight teams at conference tournament finals site eligible
(W) Basketball	Conference Tournament (8 teams)	Only participants on eight teams at conference tournament finals site eligible
(W) Swimming & Diving	Conference Meet (10 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
(M) Indoor T&F	Conference Meet (13 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
(W) Indoor T&F	Conference Meet (16 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
Wrestling	Overall champion(s)	Only participants on the overall conference championship team(s) and individuals named as first or second team all-conference eligible
Spring Sports	NSIC Finals Site Format	NSIC Elite 18 Award Eligibility
Baseball	Conference Tournament (8 teams)	All participants at conference tournament eligible
Softball	Conference Tournament (10 teams)	All participants at conference tournament eligible
(W) Tennis	Conference Tournament (6 teams)	All participants at conference tournament eligible
(M) Outdoor T&F	Conference Meet (13 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
(W) Outdoor T&F	Conference Meet (16 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
(M) Golf	Conference Meet (11 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible
(W) Golf	Conference Meet (14 teams)	All participants at conference meet eligible

3.3.8 All-Academic Team of Excellence and All-Academic Team.

3.3.8.1 An All-Academic Team of Excellence, along with an All-Academic Team will be recognized in each conference sponsored sport with the size of the team to be unlimited.

3.3.8.2 Criteria. The following criteria shall be used:

3.3.8.2.1 The student-athlete must be a member of the varsity ~~traveling~~ team roster.

3.3.8.2.2 To be named to the All-Academic Team of Excellence, student-athletes must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.60 or higher (4.0 scale).

3.3.8.2.3 To be named to the All-Academic Team, the student-athlete must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.20-3.59 (4.0 scale).

3.3.8.2.4 Academically the student-athlete must have completed at least one full academic year at their current institution (student must be in at least their 3rd academic-year-semester at their institution). *(Revised: 7/15/21)*

3.3.8.2.5 Athletically the student-athlete is in at least their second year of competition at their current institution (true freshman, red-shirt freshmen and ineligible athletic transfers are not eligible). *(Revised: 7/15/21)*

3.3.8.2.6 Graduate students are eligible. Their cumulative undergraduate GPA must meet criteria. Their nomination is based upon cumulative graduate GPA at that institution if they have earned at least 8 graduate credits, otherwise their cumulative undergraduate GPA will be used. Must be in at least their second season of NSIC competition. *(Adopted: 7/15/21)*

3.3.8.3 The Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations shall send a form to each CSC requesting the names of qualifying student-athletes for each of the all-academic teams from the current sports season on October 1, January 15 and April 1 of each year.

3.3.8.4 The CSCs shall send a list of qualifiers to the Assistant Commissioner.

3.3.8.5 The teams shall be announced 2-4 weeks after the conclusion of the NSIC season for each sport.

3.3.8.6 All members of the men's and women's NSIC All-Academic Teams shall receive a merit certificate. The conference office shall send out the certificates.

NSIC Team GPA Award – Updated Selection Criteria Language for FAR Consideration

NSIC Team GPA Award

The NSIC Team GPA Award recognizes outstanding team academic achievement within the conference. These teams have achieved success at the championship level in the classroom and in competition. The NSIC Team GPA Award is presented to the team with the highest cumulative team grade point average in each sponsored sport according to the following criteria. *Note: The award description will be automatically updated in the NSIC Operational Standards for the Conduct of Sports to reflect any changes to the number of sports sponsored by the conference.*

Selection Criteria.

- Only teams participating at NSIC Championships/Tournament are eligible for the team GPA award.
 - For Football / Men's Wrestling all teams are eligible.
 - Affiliate members are eligible for the award.
- All active members of the team as of the first date of competition will be part of the team GPA determination. EXCEPTION: For Fall Sports, student-athletes in their first semester with the institution will be excluded from the team GPA determination as they will not have a GPA yet at the current institution.
~~The student athlete must have completed at least one full academic year at their current institution (student must be in at least their third academic year semester at their institution).~~
- Grades through the latest completed semester shall be utilized for a student-athlete. Only the cumulative ~~undergraduate~~ grade point average at the current institution is applicable. If a student-athlete ~~has graduated from institution and is in graduate school, or is a transfer,~~ only ~~undergraduate~~ coursework from the current institution is to be considered.
- To calculate the team GPA, divide the teams' cumulative grade points by total credit hours attempted, calculated out to the third decimal point.

Team GPA Calculation Example:

SA A: 4.00 GPA (360 GPA Points / 90 Credit Hours)

SA B: 3.50 GPA (210 GPA Points / 60 Credit Hours)

SA C: 3.00 GPA (90 GPA Points / 30 Credit Hours)

Team GPA: 3.667 GPA (660 GPA Points / 180 Credit Hours)

A request for team GPAs will be made on October 1, January 15 and April 1 of each year with submission deadlines of October 15, January 31 and April 15, respectively.



Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference
Faculty Athletic Representatives Small Group Meeting
Team Academic Awards
May 26, 2026

Action Items.

None.

Informational Items.

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks. The group was welcomed and thanked for their time.
2. NCAA Woman of the Year.
The group was informed that the NCAA would be sunsetting the NCAA Woman of the Year Award. Part of this was due to Division I not being a part of the NCAA Convention and also as a cost reduction move.
3. Team Academic Awards. The group revisited the discussion from their spring meeting on adding team academic awards. The goal was to recognize academic success for teams reaching the NSIC tournaments. The group felt that using the team GPA criteria used at NCAA Festivals in the past would be the best starting point. Furthermore, the group felt that the award should be highlighted at championships and felt that any team that made the NSIC tournament (not necessarily the final site – VB/BB) should be in the running for the award. The group brought forward a meld of both the NSIC Elite 18 criteria and the NCAA Team GPA criteria to the full group, which can be referenced below. The information will be shared with the full group of FARs for their review prior to their summer meeting.

NSIC Team GPA Award (*Concept*)

The NSIC Team GPA Award recognizes outstanding team academic achievement within the conference. These teams have achieved success at the championship level in the classroom and in competition. The NSIC Team GPA Award is presented to the team with the highest cumulative team grade point average in each sponsored sport according to the following criteria. *Note: The award description will be automatically updated in the NSIC Operational Standards for the Conduct of Sports to reflect any changes to the number of sports sponsored by the conference.*



Selection Criteria.

Grades through the latest completed semester* of all student-athletes listed on the institution's regular-season roster who meet the following criteria:

- The student-athlete must have completed at least one full academic year at their current institution (student must be in at least their third academic-year semester at their institution).
- Only teams participating at NSIC Championships/Tournament are eligible for the team GPA award.
 - Football / Wrestling all teams eligible
 - Affiliate members are eligible for the award
- Only cumulative undergraduate grade point average at current institution is applicable. If a student-athlete has graduated from institution and is in graduate school, or is a transfer, only undergraduate coursework from current institution should be considered.
- Request for team GPAs will be made on October 1, January 15 and April 1 of each year.
- To calculate average team GPA, divide teams' cumulative grade points by total credit hours attempted, calculated out to the third decimal point.

Example:

SA A: 4.00 GPA (360 GPA Points / 90 Credit Hours)

SA B: 3.00 GPA (90 GPA Points / 30 Credit Hours)

TEAM GPA: 3.75 GPA (450 GPA Points / 120 Credit Hours)

- *Fall Sports – Previous Spring
- *Winter Sports – Previous Fall/J-Term
- *Spring – Previous Fall/J-Term

Participants

Jennifer Myers	Concordia University, St. Paul
Dr. Chelsee Shortt	Northern State University
Dr. Sonya Vierstraete	Southwest Minnesota State University
Erin Lind	Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference
Nick Kornder	Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference

Message from NCAA Regarding Division II Eligibility Review – June 30, 2026

Below is an update on the Division II eligibility review outlining key next steps for the Division II age-based eligibility model currently under consideration.

The Legislation Committee met June 16-17 and is recommending an age-based eligibility model for Division II. The committee also recommends that the legislation be acted on as emergency legislation and become effective immediately. This recommendation still requires approval by the Management Council and the Executive Board, so **nothing is final or adopted at this time for Division II**.

Under the recommended model, Division II student-athletes would have a five-year period of collegiate eligibility beginning with the earlier of:

- The start of the regular academic year immediately following a student-athlete's 19th birthday; or
- When a student-athlete initially enrolls full time at any collegiate institution (e.g., international or domestic, including junior colleges).

The new age-based model would eliminate the distinction between seasons of competition and the use of full-time semesters or quarters. Waivers and redshirts would also be eliminated, with only narrow and clearly defined exceptions remaining under the new five-year framework, such as pregnancy, an official religious mission and active-duty military service.

Key next steps:

Implementation models: The Legislation Committee discussed draft implementation models (attached) for legislation adopted as emergency legislation, effective August 5, 2026, or legislation adopted at the 2027 NCAA Convention, effective immediately (i.e., January 15, 2027).

The models are not final, and schools and conferences are encouraged to review the draft implementation models and share feedback with their Management Council representative.

Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee: Division II SAAC will meet July 17 for its quarterly meeting and July 18-19 with the Management Council for its annual joint summit. These meetings will provide an opportunity for SAAC to discuss the recommended age-based model and provide feedback.

Division II Management Council: The Management Council will meet July 20-21 to review the Legislation Committee's recommendation and determine whether to recommend that the Executive Board adopt the age-based eligibility model as emergency legislation, effective August 5, 2026, or sponsor legislation for the 2027 Convention, effective immediately (i.e., January 15, 2027).

Message from NCAA Regarding Division II Eligibility Review – June 30, 2026

Division II Executive Board: The Executive Board will meet August 5 to review the Management Council's recommendation. The Board may adopt the age-based eligibility model as emergency legislation, effective August 5, 2026, or sponsor 2027 Convention legislation establishing an age-based eligibility model, effective immediately (i.e., January 15, 2027).

Additional information will be available through ncaa.org news articles and other Division II Governance and Member Services communications regarding actions taken this summer on the Division II age-based eligibility model.

Finally, the Division I Cabinet adopted the age-based eligibility model, effective August 1, 2026. Reference the [article](#) for additional details.

Implementation Scenarios

The following are potential implementation scenarios for the age-based collegiate eligibility model with an effective date of August 5, 2026:

	Which eligibility model applies?
Current student-athletes who initially enrolled full time at any collegiate institution (e.g., two-year, international, Division I/II/III) prior to the 2026-27 academic year.	
Student-athletes with eligibility remaining (time left in their period of eligibility and seasons of competition remaining).	Either the current rules OR new age-based model, whichever is most beneficial to the student-athlete. <i>*Any waivers (e.g., extensions, hardship waivers, organized competition) for current student-athletes based on the current legislation must be submitted no later than August 31, 2026, and will not be available for competition or extenuating circumstances occurring beyond the 2025-26 academic year.</i> <i>**Currently enrolled student-athletes assessed under the current rules must use their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility consecutively. Student-athletes assessed under the current rules that are not currently enrolled must use their remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility consecutively upon re-enrollment. All student-athletes assessed under the current rules have until the conclusion of the 2030-2031 academic year to use any remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility. After the 2030-2031 academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.</i>
Student-athletes who exhausted eligibility in 2025-26 (no time left in their period of eligibility and no seasons of competition remaining).	Current rules; no longer eligible.
Student-athletes who used their final season of competition during 2025-26 but have time remaining in their period of eligibility.	Current rules; no longer eligible.
Prospective Student-Athletes Enrolling Full Time at any Collegiate Institution Fall 2026 and Later.	
Prospective student-athletes who initially enroll full time at any collegiate institution in 2026-27.	Either the current rules OR new age-based model, whichever is most beneficial to the student-athlete. <i>*Organized competition waivers for prospective student-athletes initially enrolling at a Division II institution during the 2026-27 academic year must be filed within 30 calendar days of the prospective student-athlete's final athletics certification decision. For prospective student-athletes who received their final athletics certification prior to August 1, 2026, any organized competition waivers must be submitted no later than August 31, 2026.</i>

	<i>**Athletics eligibility waivers (e.g., extensions, hardship waivers) will not be available for prospective student-athletes assessed under the current eligibility rules.</i> <i>***All student-athletes assessed under the current rules have until the conclusion of the 2030-2031 academic year to use any remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility. After the 2030-2031 academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.</i>
Prospective student-athletes who initially enroll full time at any collegiate institution in 2027-28 or later.	Age-based model only.

The following are potential implementation scenarios for the age-based collegiate eligibility model **with an effective date of January 15, 2027:**

	Which eligibility model applies?
Current student-athletes who initially enrolled full time at any collegiate institution (e.g., two-year, international, Division I/II/III) prior to the 2026-27 academic year.	
Student-athletes who enter the 2026-27 academic year with eligibility remaining (time left in their period of eligibility and seasons of competition remaining).	Either the current rules OR new age-based model, whichever is most beneficial to the student-athlete. <i>*Any waivers (e.g., extensions, hardship waivers, organized competition) for current student-athletes based on the current legislation must be submitted no later than July 31, 2027, and will not be available for competition or extenuating circumstances occurring beyond the 2026-27 academic year.</i> <i>** Currently enrolled student-athletes assessed under the current rules must use their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility consecutively. Student-athletes assessed under the current rules that are not currently enrolled must use their remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility consecutively upon re-enrollment. All student-athletes assessed under the current rules have until the conclusion of the 2031-2032 academic year to use any remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility. After the 2031-2032 academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.</i>
Student-athletes who exhausted eligibility in 2025-26 (no time left in their period of eligibility and no seasons of competition remaining).	Current rules; no longer eligible.

Student-athletes who used their final season of competition during 2025-26 but have time remaining in their period of eligibility.	Current rules; no longer eligible.
Prospective Student-Athletes Enrolling Full Time at any Collegiate Institution Fall 2026 and Later.	
Prospective student-athletes who initially enroll full time at any collegiate institution in 2026-27.	Either the current rules OR new age-based model, whichever is most beneficial to the student-athlete. <i>*Organized competition waivers for prospective student-athletes initially enrolling at a Division II institution during the 2026-27 academic year must be filed by July 31, 2027.</i> <i>**All student-athletes assessed under the current rules must use their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility consecutively. Student-athletes assessed under the current rules have until the conclusion of the 2030-2031 academic year to use any remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility. After the 2030-2031 academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.</i>
Prospective student-athletes who initially enroll full time at a Division II institution in 2027-28 and signed a written offer of admission or financial aid agreement with the institution or submitted their financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission before January 15, 2027.	Either the current rules OR new age-based model, whichever is most beneficial to the student-athlete. <i>*Organized competition waivers for prospective student-athletes initially enrolling at a Division II institution during the 2027-28 academic year must be filed within 30 calendar days of the prospective student-athlete's final athletics certification decision. For prospective student-athletes who received their final athletics certification prior to July 1, 2027, any organized competition waivers must be submitted no later than July 31, 2027.</i> <i>**Athletics eligibility waivers (e.g., extensions, hardship waivers) will not be available for prospective student-athletes assessed under the current eligibility rules.</i> <i>***All student-athletes assessed under the current rules must use their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility consecutively. Student-athletes assessed under the current rules have until the conclusion of the 2031-2032 academic year to use any remaining semesters/quarters of eligibility. After the 2031-2032</i>

	<i>academic year, any future eligibility must be assessed under the age-based model.</i> <i>****Division II institutions will be required to report to the NCAA Eligibility Center the date a prospective student-athlete in the 2027-28 signing class signed a written offer of admission or financial aid agreement with the institution or submitted their financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission.</i>
All other prospective student-athletes who initially enroll full time at any collegiate institution in 2027-28 or later.	Age-based model only.

DII Football Transfer Portal Window Exception – Interpretation

DI Bylaw: 13.1.1.4.3.2 Exception -- Athletics Aid Reduction, Cancellation or Nonrenewal -- Football. [FBS/FCS] A student-athlete may initiate notification of transfer during a 30 consecutive-day period beginning the day after any of the following occurs: (Adopted: 9/17/25, Revised: 10/8/25)

- a) The student-athlete received or was issued athletically related financial aid after the academic year of initial, full-time enrollment at the certifying institution and such aid is reduced, canceled or not renewed after the period of award, unless the recipient:
 - 1) Is rendered ineligible for intercollegiate competition based on the recipient's action or inaction;
 - 2) Fraudulently misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent or financial aid agreement (see Bylaw 15.3.4.2.4);
 - 3) Engages in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty (see Bylaw 15.3.4.2.5);
 - 4) Voluntarily (on the recipient's own initiative) withdraws from a sport at any time for personal reasons;
 - 5) Violates a nonathletically related condition outlined in the financial aid agreement or violates a documented institutional rule or policy (e.g., academics policies or standards, athletics department or team rules or policies); or
 - 6) Provides written notification of transfer to the institution.

NCAA DII Interpretation: Based on the information provided, if the student-athlete's (SA) athletics aid is reduced, cancelled or nonrenewed, then they would have access to the exception outlined in Division I Bylaw 13.1.1.4.3.2, provided the athletics aid was not reduced, cancelled or nonrenewed for any reason outlined in subsections (1) through (6).

Outcomes for 2026 NCAA Division II Convention Proposals

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-1 (Women's Flag Football – Emerging Sports for Women)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-2 (Acrobatics & Tumbling – National Collegiate Championship)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-3 (Stunt – National Collegiate Championship)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-4 (Women's Bowling – Division II Championship)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-5 (Recruiting – Definitions & Applications – Football Recruiting Dead Period)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-6 (Eligibility – Athletics Eligibility – Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule – Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters)

- REFERRED to the Executive Board for further review and discussion with the expectation that the Board report back to the Division II membership on this referral in time for sponsorship of legislation for the 2028 NCAA Convention.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-7 (Retroactive Athletics Aid)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-8 (Baseball Non-Championship Segment Daily & Weekly Hour Limitations)

- DEFEATED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-9 (Baseball Number of Contests Maximum Limitations)

- DEFEATED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-10 (Basketball First Permissible Contest)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-11 (Golf Maximum Number of Dates of Competition)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-12 (Soccer Preseason Practice & Acclimatization Period)

- DEFEATED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-13 (Softball Maximum Number of Contests & Non-Championship Segment)

- DEFEATED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-14 (Championships Minimum Sponsorship Exception – Field Hockey & Women's Rowing)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-15 (DII Championships Administration – Criteria for Selection in Team Sports – NCAA Power Index)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2026-16 (Minimum Conference Sport Sponsorship for Automatic Qualification Exception)

- ADOPTED Final.

NCAA Division II Proposal R-2026-17 (Resolution – DII Football Championship Date Formula)

- DEFEATED Final.



Case Summary

General Case Information

Case Number	Case Type	Sub Case Type	Release to Database
1271161	Interpretation Request	Recruiting - Bylaw 13	No
		Division II	Sport(s)

Legislative Cite(s)

13.4 - Unofficial (Nonpaid) Visit.

Status Information

Status	Status Date	Status Level	Status Level Type
Resolved	06/17/2026	Staff	Individual

Conditions

Rationale

Interpretation::

Based on the information provided, it is permissible for a prospective student-athlete (PSA) to make unofficial visits before June 15 immediately preceding their junior year of high school. With the adoption of NC-2025-14, the removal of the language in Bylaw 13.4.1 does not restrict unofficial visits to after June 15th. An institutional staff member who is approached on an unofficial visit by a PSA prior to June 15 immediately preceding the PSA's junior year in high school, shall not use a contact, provided the encounter was not prearranged and the staff member does not engage in any dialogue in excess of a greeting and takes appropriate steps to immediately terminate the encounter.

Case Summary

Specific Case Information

Describe the interpretive request

Can Unofficial Visits happen at anytime during the PSA's recruiting process? Example: Can a PSA take an Unofficial Visit to a campus and have face-to face contact with the coaching staff prior to June 15 preceding the PSAs junior year of high school? If yes, what is an acceptable amount of time a coach can spend with the PSA during the Unofficial Visit?

DII Legislation Related to NCAA Interpretation – Unofficial Visits Involving PSA Prior to June 15 of Junior Year

13.1.1 Contactable Prospective Student-Athletes.

13.1.1.1 High School Prospective Student-Athletes. Contact shall not be made with a prospective student-athlete or a prospective student-athlete's relatives or legal guardians before June 15 immediately preceding the prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school. [D]

13.4 Unofficial (Nonpaid) Visit.

13.4.1 Number Permitted. A prospective student-athlete may visit a member institution's campus at their own expense an unlimited number of times.