

MINUTES OF THE
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Teleconference

August 15, 2007

Participants:

Amy Buxbaum, Chatham College
Robert Coleman, Whittier College, chair
Dan Fulks, Transylvania University
Portia Lowe, Lake Forest College
Kent Reeves, East Texas Baptist University
Terry Rupert, Wilmington College (Ohio)
Andrea Savage, New England Small College Athletic Conference
Ashley Snell, Rivier College
Jeremiah Carter, NCAA
Jay Jones, NCAA, recording secretary
Jeff Myers NCAA

[Note: These minutes contain only actions 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 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 teleconference was called to order at 2:04 p.m. Eastern time by the chair, Mr. Coleman. All members were present as noted above.

1. Welcome and Announcements. Mr. Coleman welcomed the committee and NCAA staff to the teleconference.
2. Review of Previous Minutes. The committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the July 18 teleconference.
3. Review Institutional Religious Policy for NCAA Division III Championships. At the request of the NCAA Division III Championships Committee, the committee reviewed the issue of detailing what particular criteria must be met in order to adjust a championship schedule as a result of an institutional policy against competition on a

particular day for religious reasons. Based on this review, the committee took the following action:

It was VOTED

“That the NCAA Division III Management Council approve an official interpretation, as follows:

Institutional Policy Against Competition on a Particular Day for Religious Reasons (III). The Interpretations and Legislation Committee determined that in order to meet the criteria necessary to adjust a championship schedule, institutional policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons must: (1) be a published institutional policy from the institution’s president or chancellor; (2) be a policy that is consistent for all sports and not done on a sport-by-sport basis (unless there are specific religious reasons for a deviation of a particular sport); and (3) specifically cite athletics as a part of the policy and detail any exceptions that the institution may make to the policy. [Reference: NCAA Bylaw 31.1.4.1 (institutional policy)]”

4. Review of Issues Related to Plyometrics and Other Similar Conditioning Drills. The committee reviewed and discussed current legislation and educational columns related to voluntary individual workouts monitored for safety purposes by strength and conditioning personnel. In particular, the committee looked at plyometric type programming during the summers or out-of-season time periods. The committee was asked by a NCAA Division III commissioner whether it believed Division III could benefit from something legislatively or interpretively that speaks more specifically to plyometrics instead of generally to strength and conditioning. The committee felt that the current legislation and educational columns were clear and that further use of certain terminology related to types of conditioning would lead to questions about the types of conditioning activities not specifically addressed. The committee felt that the overall umbrella of strength and conditioning should be understood to include all types of conditioning activities. As such, the committee took no action and noted that it has sponsored legislation for the 2008 NCAA Convention that will further clarify the role of the strength and conditioning coach.
5. Nominations. The committee noted that Mr. Coleman’s tenure as chair of the committee expires January 2008 and discussed the procedure for nominating members for the position. Nominations for chair will be accepted prior to the September teleconference and the committee will vote via e-mail following the September teleconference.

6. Report from Management Council Liaison. Mr. Fulks provided the committee an update on the Management Council's actions related to items from the committee's July report to the Management Council. The committee accepted the update as given with no further action.

7. Review of Concerns Related to Baseball and Softball Innings Limitations in Nontraditional Segment. The committee discussed concerns (voiced from the coaching communities) related to 2007 NCAA Division III Convention Proposal No. 4 in the sports of baseball and softball. The committee was notified that coaches in the sports of baseball and softball felt that the new legislation unfairly limited their team's abilities to conduct multi-squad activities and evaluate players. The staff noted the discussion of these concerns during the 2007 Convention Sunday issues forum and the inclusion of information related to this issue within the 2007 NCAA Convention Division III Question and Answer Guide. The committee agreed to forward the concerns to the NCAA Division III Management Council Playing and Practice Seasons Subcommittee for further discussion, noting that the proposal was recommended by the Playing and Practice Seasons Subcommittee and deals with Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) issues.

8. Received Update on Text Messaging Proposal in Divisions I and II. In light of the NCAA Division III Presidents Council co-sponsored proposal related to text messaging, Mr. Jones was asked to provide the committee with an update on the current status of the ban on text messaging in Division I and the proposed ban on text messaging in Division II. A verbal update was provided with no further action.

9. Adjournment. Mr. Coleman adjourned the teleconference at 3:10 p.m. Eastern time.

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