

REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

I. ACTION ITEMS.

a. **Preliminary Program Assessment.**

- (1) Recommendation. To amend NCAA Constitution 3.6.1.1.1.1 (waiver) to indicate that the preliminary program assessment shall be submitted with the four-year provisional/reclassification waiver application.
- (2) Rationale. The Committee reviewed the list of items to be considered in the waiver process and discussed the possibility of requiring submission of the preliminary program assessment with any waiver request. The committee saw value in requiring the preliminary program assessment as it will help the committee evaluate the proper functioning of the athletics compliance system.

b. **Reclassification Waiver.**

- (1) Recommendation. To amend Bylaw 20.6.2.2.1 (waiver) to include the list of items to be reviewed in the four-year provisional/reclassification waiver request. This list of items shall be the same as those in the provisional membership waiver. See Attachment.
- (2) Rationale. The committee reviewed NCAA Bylaw 20.6.2.2.1 and the waiver provision for the reclassification process. That waiver does not include a list of items to be reviewed in consideration of the waiver request. Because the provisional and reclassifying programs are essentially the same, the reclassifying requirement should be amended to reflect the same list of review items as the provisional waiver.

c. **University of Texas at Tyler Request to Amend the Provisional Waiver Process.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the University of Texas at Tyler's request to amend the provisional waiver process be denied.
- (2) Rationale. The committee reviewed a request from the University of Texas at Tyler to amend the provisional waiver process so that the waiver may be requested at the end of the third year of the program. The committee discussed the four-year provisional waiver process, specifically as it relates to when an institution has the opportunity to request such a waiver. The committee determined the waiver is only available at the completion of year two of the provisional timeline. It is the committee's intent to accelerate those institutions that exhibit complete readiness for active Division III membership from the start of the program. As such, institutions would need to meet all membership

requirements as noted in Constitution 3.6.1.1.1.1, including sports sponsorship for provisional years one and two. Should an institution meet all the requirements, the institution would complete its final (third) year as verification of its ability to apply all Division III regulations.

d. Voting Requirement -- NCAA Constitution 3.6.3.1.

- (1) Recommendation. To amend Constitution 3.6.3.1 to eliminate the common voting line for membership election procedures – voting requirement.
- (2) Rationale. The committee noted that Constitution 3.6.3.1 (voting requirement) indicates that procedures for election to membership are common provisions. Each division has been establishing separate legislative requirements in this area; thus, the constitution should be federated.

e. Conference Application -- Northern Athletic Conference.

- (1) Recommendation. To approve the Northern Athletic Conference as a member conference, effective immediately.
- (2) Rationale. The committee reviewed the conference application from the Northern Athletic Conference, noting that the conference included more than six active Division III institutions, exhibited president or chancellor oversight and showed the development of a conference student-athlete advisory committee in its constitution.

f. Application Fee for Provisional Members -- Constitution 3.7.3.1.

- (1) Recommendation. To amend Constitution 3.7.3.1 to eliminate the common voting line, to specify the impact of the corresponding membership fee during the institution's time in the provisional queue and to specify that the institution shall be invoiced for membership fees after its provisional application has been approved.
- (2) Rationale. The committee noted that Constitution 3.7.3.1 (application fee -- provisional members) does not explain that a corresponding membership fee of \$225 is charged to institutions waiting to begin provisional membership and that submission of that fee is what keeps the institution in the queue to begin the provisional membership program. Further, it does not state that the exploratory fee and any corresponding fees paid to maintain position in the

