

MINUTES OF THE
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Teleconference

August 9, 2007

Participants:

Christyn Chambers, Swathmore College
Caitlin Collier, Menlo College
Page Cotton, DePauw University
Kristen Hall, Bard College
Mark Majeski, Willamette University
Chris Martin, College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin, chair
Scott Miller, Wesley College
Diana Schwartz, Westfield State College
Azure Davey, NCAA, recording secretary
Shana Levine, NCAA.

Susan Hoffman, State University College of Brockport; and Christopher Ragsdale, University of La Verne were unable to participate on the teleconference.

[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 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 of reference.]

The NCAA Division III Membership Committee teleconference was called to order at 1:04 p.m. Eastern time by the chair. All members were present as noted above.

1. Review of Previous Minutes. The committee reviewed the minutes from the July 12 teleconference.

It was VOTED

"To approve the July 12 teleconference minutes."

2. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Waiver Request. The committee reviewed Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's waiver request under the provisions of NCAA Division III Bylaw 20.7.1.1.1. Rensselaer sought a waiver on behalf of their NCAA Division I men's ice hockey student-athlete. The student-athlete and Division I ice hockey program are subject to the more stringent divisional rules of Division I and Division III. The institution noted the student-athlete was precluded from participating in competition due to the NCAA Division I Bylaw 14.5.5.2.10 (one-time transfer exception). The institution further noted the student-athlete would then be subject to Division III Bylaw 14.2.4.1 (minimum amount of participation) and use a season of participation by practicing with the Division I team.

The committee reviewed the request and related past waiver materials and minutes. The committee noted, pursuant to Division III Bylaw 20.7.1.1.1, the approval of this waiver, or any future similar waiver, would only be effective until August 1, 2008. The committee also noted precedence and student-athlete well-being as issues when considering their recommendation to NCAA Division III Management Council.

It was VOTED

"To recommend that Management Council approve the Rensselaer waiver on behalf of the said Division I men's ice hockey student-athlete. The committee notes student-athlete well-being and precedence as factors in this decision."

3. Exploratory and Provisional/Reclassification Applications. The committee reviewed the applications and made edits and clarifications. Staff was charged with making the updates.
4. Provisional/Reclassifying 2008 NCAA Convention Session. The committee discussed the agenda for the provisional/reclassifying Convention session. The committee recommended an afternoon session to take place 3 to 4:30 p.m., Sunday, January 13 to allow for time to reinforce the material learned during the morning Issues Forum. This afternoon session would include discussion of the 2008 proposals and would serve as an opportunity for institutions to discuss the provisional process and raise questions to Membership Committee mentors.

5. Reclassifying Institutions' Access to Championships/Grants Funding. The committee reconsidered NCAA Division III Bylaw 20.6.9.1 and its implication on those Division III institutions exploring Division II. Committee considerations included the opportunity for these potential reclassifying institutions to have access to Division III grant funding and championships. The committee noted the heightened commitment to reclassification due to the Division II increase in fees. Additionally, the committee noted that reclassifying institutions would be less likely to be "exploring" membership than a non-NCAA institution. While the committee recognized an Association need to provide funds to reclassifying institutions for grant initiatives, the committee believed that these funds should not be distributed from Division III since it would be unlikely these institutions would remain within Division III. Finally, the committee noted a reclassifying institution that then decided to remain in Division III would then have access to Division III grant funding and championships on return to Division III.

It was VOTED.

"To maintain the original recommendation that Division III institutions entering the first exploratory year of Division II not be permitted to receive Division III grant funding and access to Division III championships."

6. Future Meeting Schedule.

- Teleconference; 1 p.m. Eastern time Thursday, September 13.

7. Adjournment. The committee moved to adjourn the teleconference at 1:48 p.m. Eastern time.