

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT COMMITTEE**

1. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Eligibility Ramifications — Restitution for Receipt of Improper Benefits (NCAA Bylaw 16.01.2).

- (1) Recommendation. Amend all restitution bylaws to increase the limitation for value of benefits that do not affect the eligibility of the student-athlete conditioned on the student-athlete repaying the value of the benefit to a charity of his or her choice received from \$50 or less to \$100 or less.
- (2) Rationale. Currently the restitution limit within NCAA Division III is \$50. Given the small number of cases that fall between \$50 and \$100, the Student-Athlete Reinstatement (SAR) committee believes an increase to \$100 will assist in lessening the bureaucracy by decreasing the number of situations where reinstatement is required. This increase in dollar limitation will bring consistency among the Association regarding receipt of impermissible benefits that can be addressed through restitution.
- (3) Budget Impact. None.

b. Amateurism — Involvement with Professional Teams — Draft List — Exception.

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation to allow, in the sport of basketball, a student-athlete in his or her final year of eligibility to be drafted during the basketball season by an international organization without forfeiting his or her eligibility in the sport of basketball.
- (2) Rationale. The committee noted that given the timing of the international-basketball draft (during the collegiate basketball season), enrolled student-athletes are unnecessarily precluded from participating in the international basketball draft during their final year of eligibility. The committee believes allowing this limited exception would not compromise the intent of amateur principles. The committee notes that existing legislation regarding agents and benefits would still apply and preclude involvement with agents and the professional team beyond being drafted.
- (3) Budget Impact. None.

c. Definition — Professional Athletics Team [Bylaw 12.02.4 (a) (10)].

- (1) Recommendation. The committee recommends noncontroversial legislation is adopted to amend the language of the definition of a professional team, which indicates “other reasonable expenses incidental to participation” to “other reasonable expenses.”
- (2) Rationale. The committee believes that the intent of the change in the definition of a professional team was to provide clarity to the membership and ensure that teams who provided players money in excess of actual and necessary expenses are considered professional under NCAA legislation. This past year, a couple cases involved receipt of reasonable expenses (e.g., laundry money) from an Espoir team that was not directly tied to practice or competition. As a result, an interpretation was given causing these teams to be considered professional. However, the intent of new definition was to not have teams like those competing at the Espoir (amateur) level trigger the definition of a professional team. The change in language will allow interpretive flexibility so the teams that are not truly paying their players will no longer trigger the definition of a professional team.
- (3) Budget Impact. None.

e. Policies and Procedures.

- (1) Recommendation. The committee recommends approval of proposed amendments to the committee’s policies and procedures. Amendments include replacing language identifying director of SAR to SAR lead administrator and provision of a clear indication that committee materials and appeal proceedings are confidential (Attachment A).
- (2) Rationale. The recommended changes reflect the current practice of the committee and are editorial in nature. The language regarding lead administrator will accurately reflect administration of SAR within membership services. The confidentiality clause will assist in protecting not only student-athlete’s privacy but also all participants involved in the appeal.
- (3) Budget Impact. None.

