

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

1. ACTION ITEMS.

a. Legislative.

(1) NCAA Bylaw 31.2.2.2.

- (a) Recommendation. The NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee recommends that the NCAA Division III Management Council sponsor legislation that eliminates Bylaw 31.2.2.2 (NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement representative).
- (b) Rationale. Bylaw 31.2.2 2 authorizes the chair of the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement to designate the faculty athletics representative of the host institution to act as a temporary, additional member of the committee and it shall be the special responsibility of the temporary member to notify the chair of any eligibility problem. The committee believes that this bylaw should be eliminated since committee members are and have been available in emergency championship situations which this bylaw was intended to address. In addition, in an effort to promote consistency and to protect sensitive information, the committee believes it is the best body to address emergency eligibility/reinstatement issues. Further, the committee noted that this bylaw has not been used in recent years. Finally, elimination of this bylaw is consistent with the committee's efforts to deregulate the manual and to streamline the student-athlete reinstatement process.

(2) Bylaw 30.6.1 (10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule Waiver).

- (a) Recommendation. The committee recommends that the Management Council sponsor legislation to amend Bylaw 30.6.1.1 (b) (five-year/10-semester rule waiver) as follows: *The student-athlete is unable to participate in athletics as a result of a life threatening or incapacitating injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family, which is clearly supported by contemporaneous medical documentation.*

- (b) Rationale. Currently, the bylaw requires that a student-athlete be unable to attend a collegiate institution full time in order to meet the legislated criteria of the extension. The committee believes it is not in the best interest of student-athletes to require that the injury or illness suffered by a family member necessitate the student-athlete leave school in order to be considered a denied participation opportunity. Further, the intent of the extension legislation is to examine if the student-athlete did not have a participation opportunity as a result of something beyond his or her or the institution's control. The committee believes that a student-athlete should not be punished for attempting to remain enrolled in school if an injury or illness to an immediate family member prevents competition. Moreover, the committee notes that this will be consistent with the other components of the extension legislation, consistent with committee applications and consistent with criteria for a seasons-of-participation waiver – competition while eligible.

(b) Nonlegislative

(1) Student-Athlete Statement

- (a) Recommendation. The committee recommends the Management Council amend the student-athlete statement (Bylaw 14.1.3.1) to include the following question:

Are you aware of any NCAA violations you were involved in while attending your previous institution?

Yes _____ No _____

Where you required to be withheld from competition while attending your previous institution?

Yes _____ No _____

If you answered yes to either of the above questions, please provide an explanation.

In addition, the committee requested the National Office staff develop a document to assist Division III institutions with transfers.

- (b) Rationale. In processing cases, the committee has discovered that at times additional violations occur because institutions are not aware of a student-athlete's actions at a prior institution. In addition, the committee discussed the application of reinstatement conditions and how they apply to transfer student-athletes. In this discussion, it was discovered it would be helpful for institution to be aware of previous violations when reviewing a student-athlete's relevant information. In an effort to obtain this information and have the opportunity to investigate accordingly, the committee believes the student-athlete statement should include a question that asks for information about prior involvement in violations.

(2) Creation of Student-Athlete Reinstatement Forms.

- (a) Recommendation. The committee recommends Management Council approve the following two forms:
- Request for a waiver processed by the student-athlete reinstatement staff and committee, (Attachment A); and
 - Request for reinstatement and/or self-report of secondary violation (Level I) (Attachment B).
- (b) Rationale. In light of recent advancements in technology, institutions will be able to file requests for reinstatement and waivers with the reinstatement staff online by completing and submitting forms through LSDBi. In an effort to promote efficiency and consistency, the committee recommends the approval of these forms which all member institutions will be required to use. In addition to the use of technology, the belief is that the use of forms will assist in ensuring all relevant information is included within a reinstatement request.

(3) Policies and Procedures.

- (a) Recommendation. The committee recommends the Management Council support proposed amendments to the committee's policies and procedures.

