



**Actions Approved by the Division II Administrative Committee
Related to Regulations and Policies Impacted by COVID-19
March 13, March 18 and March 25, 2020**

Recruiting Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
Recruiting dead period affecting all sports.	Adopted emergency legislation to immediately implement a dead period in all sports through at least April 15. Institutional staff members are permitted to write or telephone a prospective student-athlete during a dead period, but cannot engage in in-person recruiting contact on or off campus.	3/13/20
Reimbursement of costs associated with previously planned official and unofficial visits.	Issued a blanket waiver to permit institutions to reimburse prospective student-athletes with any costs associated with canceled official or unofficial visits. Such reimbursement would not trigger use of a prospective student-athlete's one permissible official visit.	3/13/20
Offering of institutional athletics aid agreements.	Adopted a resolution to specify that institutional athletics aid agreements cannot be issued until at least April 15 to align with the recruiting dead period.	3/18/20
Recruiting contact for signed prospective student-athletes.	Although legislation provides flexibility, institutions are not encouraged to engage in in-person recruiting on or off campus.	3/18/20
Adjust the deadline for coaches certification.	Issued a blanket waiver to extend the 2019-20 certifications through August 31, 2020.	3/18/20
Institutional camps and clinics during the dead period.	Clarified that institutional camps and clinics are not permitted during the dead period in place through at least April 15.	3/25/20

Reinstatement Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
Season-of-competition waivers – spring.	Allowed institutions to self-apply season-of-competition waivers for student-athletes whose 2019-20 spring season was canceled, provided all of the following criteria are met: (1) The student-athlete used a season of competition in a spring sport during the 2019-20 academic year;	3/13/20

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	<p>(2) The student-athlete was eligible for competition when he or she competed during the 2019-20 academic year; and</p> <p>(3) The student-athlete’s season was ultimately canceled for reasons related to the COVID-19 outbreak.</p>	
<p>Extension requests – spring.</p>	<p>Allowed institutions to self-apply extension of eligibility waivers for student-athletes whose 2019-20 spring season was canceled, provided all of the following criteria are met:</p> <p>(1) The student-athlete was eligible for competition during the 2019-20 academic year;</p> <p>(2) The student-athlete would have otherwise exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility after the spring 2020 term; and</p> <p>(3) The student-athlete’s season was ultimately canceled for reasons related to the COVID-19 outbreak.</p> <p>The extension would be for the entire 2020-21 academic year, as opposed to one semester.</p>	<p>3/13/20</p> <p>Criteria amended 3/18/20 and 3/25/20</p>
<p>If blanket waiver is self-applied, discuss application of Bylaw 14.2.2.4.1.1 (application of waiver).</p>	<p>Issued blanket waiver to permit a student-athlete to enroll at any point during the 2020-21 academic year (as opposed to next available opportunity).</p>	<p>3/18/20</p>
<p>Application of season of competition waivers and extension of eligibility waivers for transfers.</p>	<p>Confirmed that the rules and decisions made by other divisions and organizations (e.g., NAIA, junior college) regarding use of a season of competition or 10 semesters/15 quarters in spring 2020 would follow the student-athlete upon transfer.</p> <p>A Division II student-athlete who transfers to another Division II institution for the 2020-21 academic year would also retain use of the self-applied waiver(s). (See financial aid section for application of equivalency relief.)</p>	<p>3/25/20</p>

Financial Aid Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
Financial aid equivalency limits.	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to allow student-athletes who would have used their fourth season of competition or exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility during the spring 2020 term to receive athletics aid for the 2020-21 academic year without counting toward team equivalency limits (i.e., treat these student-athletes as if they are receiving exhausted eligibility athletics aid).</p> <p>This relief only applies if the student-athlete remains at their original institution. If the student-athlete transfers, the athletics aid received at the new institution would count toward team equivalency limits.</p>	<p>3/13/20</p> <p>Criteria amended 3/18/20 and 3/25/20</p>
Providing room and board to a student-athlete on financial aid if the campus is closed for the spring term or the remainder of the spring term.	Flexibility already exists based on the current application of financial aid rules.	3/18/20
If an institution chooses to conduct practice and a student-athlete fails to report, does this constitute voluntary withdrawal and the institution can reduce/cancel athletics aid?	Flexibility already exists based on the current application of financial aid, but institution is encouraged to work with its legal counsel.	3/18/20
Degree-Completion Awards for 2020-21.	For spring sports student-athletes who were awarded an extension request, waived current requirements so they can participate in their last season in spring 2021 and still receive the award.	3/25/20

Awards and Benefits Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
Extra benefits (e.g., meals, lodging, travel).	Flexibility already exists for institutions to provide necessary housing and meals through the Committee for Legislative Relief incidental expense waiver list .	3/13/20

Awards and Benefits Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
	Issued a blanket waiver to provide flexibility for institutions to provide any necessary transportation (e.g., flights to/from campus) to ensure the health and well-being of student-athletes.	

Academic Eligibility Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
Progress-toward-degree requirements (e.g., term-by-term, academic year and annual credit hour requirements, GPA requirement).	Flexibility already exists for relief due to catastrophic events through the Academic Requirements Committee previously approved waiver checklist .	N/A
Full-time enrollment.	Issued a blanket waiver for the spring 2020 term to permit student-athletes to participate in countable athletically related activities while enrolled less than full-time, provided the student-athletes were initially enrolled full-time for the spring 2020 term.	3/13/20
Impact on student-athletes who utilized Bylaw 14.1.7.1.7.3 (practice or competition – final semester/quarter) during the 2020 spring semester and implications for full-time enrollment in fall 2020.	Issued a blanket waiver to waive the application to permit student-athletes who retain their eligibility if they are not able to complete their graduation requirements in spring 2020 term due to COVID-19 impact.	3/18/20

Playing and Practice Seasons Questions	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
Countable athletically related activity restrictions for student-athletes who remain on campus.	Directed institutions to follow applicable playing and practice seasons legislation based on Bylaw 17.	3/13/20
Extension of nonchampionship segment (e.g., waivers were approved for the fires in California in past years) and spring football practice.	Issued a blanket waiver to permit institutions to resume the nonchampionship segment and spring football practice by the number of days lost due to athletics activities being suspense once those activities resume. Nonchampionship segment cannot extend beyond the end of the playing season in the respective sport as outlined in Bylaw 17.	3/18/20

Playing and Practice Seasons Questions	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
<p>If institution is closed, is it considered a vacation period? In addition, what impact does this have on outside competition legislation in Bylaw 14 and 17 if spring sport season is cancelled?</p>	<p>Consider an institutional closure (e.g., no academic classes for the remainder of the term) to be an immediate vacation period and apply playing and practice seasons legislation accordingly.</p> <p>If an institution has cancelled the season, the outside competition restrictions would not apply. Institutions and student-athletes are encouraged to follow applicable public health guidance regarding activities.</p>	<p>3/18/20</p>

Membership Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Priority/ Decision Date
<p>Sports sponsorship.</p>	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to provide relief of sports sponsorship requirements for institutions that cancel spring seasons.</p>	<p>3/13/20</p>
<p>Three-season requirement.</p>	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to provide relief of the three-season requirement for institutions that cancel spring seasons.</p>	<p>3/13/20</p>
<p>Reporting and other requirements for institutions in the membership process.</p>	<p>Issued a waiver to provide relief of the June 1 deadline for institutions in the membership process and other requirements, as needed.</p>	<p>3/13/20</p>
<p>Membership process visits. Explore conducting visits conducted in another manner (i.e., webinar or teleconference).</p>	<p>Cancel visits scheduled for spring 2020 and explore alternate methods for conducting visits.</p>	<p>3/13/20</p>
<p>Reporting requirements for active institutions (i.e., ASR, ISSG, sports sponsorship and demographic form, health and safety survey, APC, membership dues).</p>	<p>Issued a blanket waiver to provide relief of the various legislated deadlines for active institutions. Staff to work with appropriate committees or internal groups to determine extended deadlines.</p>	<p>3/18/20</p>