



Division I-AAA Legislative Headlines



*An electronic newsletter provided by
The Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association
on NCAA legislative trends and issues affecting Division I-AAA*

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MANAGEMENT COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING TO BE HELD APRIL 11 AND 12 IN INDIANAPOLIS

During its April meeting, the Management Council will review over 100 legislative proposals. The April meeting is the "legislative meeting" when the Council will have its second or final vote upon the proposals that were inserted into the legislative cycle last fall. The Council had reviewed these proposals during its January meeting and requested membership comment on them. If approved by the Management Council, the proposals would be forwarded for final approval to the Board of Directors for its meeting in late April.

The effective date for the majority of the proposals would be August 2005. However, some of the proposals are considered non-controversial and would have an immediate effective date. Included in those groups of proposals, which could be effective immediately, are the following:

1. Proposal 2003-24, which: (1) allows institutions to award athletically related financial aid to a student-athlete for a period of less than a full academic year when the student-athlete is enrolled in the final semester or the final quarter(s) of his or her baccalaureate program and the institution certifies that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete degree requirements; and (2) requires institutions to offer full academic year awards in equal amounts for each term of the academic year.
2. Proposal 2005-2, which eliminates the summer baseball certification process.
3. Proposal 2005-4, which eliminates the current restriction on footage of an institution's intercollegiate contest or event or individual performance of a student-athlete from being shown, regardless of whether the footage meets NCAA standards for other media activities.
4. Proposal 2005-5, which eliminates the mileage restriction on promotional activities for which a student-athlete may receive expenses.
5. Proposal 2005-6, which eliminates restrictions on commission-based employment for student-athletes.

During its February 2005 meeting, the Academics/Eligibility/Compliance (A/E/C) Cabinet again reviewed the proposals that the Management Council will review. The A/E/C discussed several proposals at length and forwarded to the Management Council its strong recommendations on a few proposals. Of note were the following:

1. Proposal 2004-60 – International Student-Athlete Clearinghouse – The A/E/C encouraged the staff to continue to develop a model for the International Student-Athlete Clearinghouse. The subcommittee emphasized that the philosophy that surrounds amateurism should not be compromised because of financial concerns and feasibility of an international amateurism clearinghouse. The subcommittee also noted that this concept has support from the membership (including the Conference Commissioners Association of Compliance Administrators and the Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee) and should continue to be considered by the membership. The subcommittee requested that the staff bring a potential clearinghouse model to the June meeting for review and with the anticipation of a recommendation being forwarded to the cabinet for review and discussion in the fall.

2. Proposal 2004-132-B – Personnel – Off-Campus Recruiting – The cabinet unanimously supported this proposal, which would eliminate the baton rule in all sports. The cabinet supported the original version of this proposal, which applied exclusively to women's basketball. Proposal 2004-132-B expands the change to all sports and the cabinet agreed that applying the change to all sports is the best option.

The A/E/C also reviewed a few proposals and offered amendments to them. One of the most significant was amendments to 2004-119-B, which would establish a more flexible recruiting calendar in men's basketball, with the following two amendments:

1. Reinstating the current April contact period to observe non-scholastic events that are approved, sanctioned, sponsored or conducted by applicable state or national high school preparatory school or two-year college association only on weekends during which national standardized tests are not administered; and
2. Increasing the number of recruiting person days from 120 to 130.

COMPLIANCE REMINDER (Women's Basketball)

A contact period in the month of April in women's basketball no longer exists. Bylaws 13.1.6.4 and 13.1.8.6 indicate that during April of a prospect's junior year in high school, one of the five recruiting opportunities may include a contact with the prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) on the prospect's high school campus, subject to applicable recruiting calendar restrictions. Because the women's basketball recruiting calendar no longer includes a contact period in April, it is not permissible for institutional staff members to have a contact with a junior. The women's basketball recruiting calendar for April 2005 now includes a dead period April 1-14 (except for evaluation at one certified event by held in conjunction with, and conducted in the host city of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship), an evaluation period April 15-19, and a quiet period April 20-30.

OF NOTE

- ▶ A Valley City State basketball player will be charged with assault for throwing an elbow that gave a South Dakota School of Mines & Technology player a concussion and 14 stitches. Investigators are still working on a report in the case, said Pennington County state's attorney Glenn Brenner, and may charge simple assault against Matt Klabo of Garrison, North Dakota. Simple assault is a Class 1 misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of one year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. (Source: Associated Press, 2/24/05)
- ▶ The NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics has appointed a subcommittee to collect information on the subject of whether male students should practice with female student-athletes during the females' practices. Information to be collected includes how many teams use male practice players and in what sports. According to the committee, some concern exists that the use of male students takes away opportunities for female reserves to participate and might also pose a potential for serious injuries. The next meeting of the Committee on Women's Athletics is in July, and information could be reviewed at that point.
- ▶ During its February meeting, the Championship/Competition Cabinet made the following appointments:

Men's Basketball – Appointed Gary Walters, director of athletics at Princeton University, chair effective September 1, 2006. Appointed Laing Kennedy, director of athletics at Kent State University; and Eugene Smith, director of athletics at Arizona State University.

Men's Basketball Issues – Appointed Charles Coles, head men's basketball coach at Miami

University (Ohio); Mark Gottfried, head men's basketball coach at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; and Larry Williams, director of athletics at the University of Portland.

Women's Basketball – Appointed Joni Comstock, director of athletics at American University, chair effective September 1, 2005. Appointed Jane Meyer, senior associate director of athletics at the University of Iowa; Tina Cheatham, associate commissioner at the Southland Conference; and Jaclyn Silar, associate director of athletics at Duke University.

Women's Basketball Issues – Appointed Michael Thomas, director of athletics at the University of Akron; Carol Ross, head women's basketball coach at the University of Mississippi; Maryalyce Jeremiah, head women's basketball coach at Cal State Fullerton; and Nora Lynn Finch, senior associate director of athletics at North Carolina State University.

SPORTS WAGERING

COMPLIANCE TIP FOR COACHES AND STUDENT-ATHLETES – Avoid talking about team injuries, morale, disciplinary issues, etc. Gamblers do not wear signs identifying themselves as individuals who bet on sports events. Friends of a gambler/bookie often do not know that their friend is involved in such an activity. As a result, the student-athlete or coach must be careful about team information that is discussed. If a gambler/bookie hears the student-athlete or coach mention team injuries, morale, etc., that information could be used in a betting situation. Further, that individual probably will want more information at a future time. Think about whether a friend is “pumping” you for information about the team. Why is the person asking?

BETTING POOL AT UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO – A flier advertising a college basketball betting pool led to a raid on the University of New Mexico campus by gaming control agents and campus police. The agents and police seized computer equipment, cash, and documents under a search warrant. The gaming board will turn over a report to the District Attorney's Office for evaluation and possible prosecution after its investigation is complete. Anyone who placed bets in the pool could be cited with a petty misdemeanor. The board said the flier was circulated by a UNM student-employee. (Source: Associated Press, 3/23/05)



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