



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Article IV Athletic Grant-In-Aid

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|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: IV Athletic Grant-In-Aid Section: 1 Page: 14
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date: Winter 2018

Presenter: Jim Martineau

Current Policy/Procedure:

Section 1. The athletic financial aid available to any student-athlete enrolled at an NWAC member college will be limited to the following:

Intent: Identify and provide consistency on who is a participant; participants are signed to LOI and/or Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement; work towards identifying limitations to numbers of LOI's /RSASA's per sport.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

Section 1. In order for a student-athlete to receive athletic grant-in-aid he/she must be signed to a current Letter of Intent and/or Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement. The athletic grant-in-aid available to any student-athlete enrolled at an NWAC member college will be limited to the following:

Rationale: Provides clarity conference wide as to who is a participant and to reduce questions regarding the specifics of the commitment between the institution and the student-athlete, as laid out by the signed LOI and/or Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None

History:

Date of implementation: Winter 2018 (Freshman Class of 2018)

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Partners with Article IV, Section 1, Article V, Sections 1, 3, 4, 5.

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: LETTER OF INTENT (REVISION)

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|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw

Article: V – Letters of Intent

Section: 1

Page: 15

Sport:

Rule:

Page:

Effective Date:

Presenter: Jim Martineau

Current Policy/Procedure:

Section 1. Letters of Intent may be issued by member institutions indicating financial aid as determined by that member Institution. Such letters may be offered only in those instances in which financial aid has been determined and for which it is available should the student elect to enroll. In those cases, where institutionally determined financial aid (federal or state) is indicated on the letter of intent for which the student qualifies; the institution is committed to meet this obligation from any or all resources available to it.

Intent: Bring clarity to defining a Letter of Intent

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

Section 1. *The NWAC Letter of Intent is a binding agreement between a prospective student-athlete and an NWAC member institution. A signed Letter of Intent is a commitment to the institution and not to a particular coach. If the coach leaves the institution or the sports program, (e. g., not retained, resigns), the provisions of the LOI remains intact. A prospective student-athlete agrees to attend the institution full-time for one academic year (three quarters or two semesters). The institution agrees to provide athletic grant-in-aid for one academic year up to three quarters, whether that be summer, fall, winter, spring, or up to two semesters.*

A. Letters of Intent may be issued by member institutions indicating **athletic grant-in-aid** as determined by that member Institution. Such letters may be offered only in those instances in which financial aid has been determined and for which it is available should the student elect to enroll. In those situations, where institutionally determined financial aid (federal or state) is indicated on the letter of intent for which the student qualifies; the institution is committed to meet this obligation from any or all resources available to it.

B. A student-athlete who signs a NWAC Letter of Intent is obligated to that institution for one academic year. By June 15, of his/her one-year commitment, the student-athlete may sign a Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement or may choose to sign an LOI and receive athletic grant-in-aid at any member institution. If the student-athlete chooses to sign an LOI and receive athletic grant-in-aid at any member institution the following stipulations apply:

- Student-athletes who are a participant and/or signed to a current Letter of Intent (LOI) must sit out three (3) terms (exclusive of summer) after separation from the athletic program. (Article III, Section 18, Page 11, NWAC Codebook)

C. All and returning NWAC student-athletes receiving athletic grant-in-aid must be signed to a Letter of Intent or to a Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement.

Rationale: Reduce the amount of ambiguity when comes to concerns regarding the obligation of both the institution and the student-athlete. Clarifies that the LOI is specific to one academic year (3 quarters or 2 semesters).

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None. Management of athletic grant-in-aid will be paramount.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None.

History:

Date of implementation: Winter 2018 (Freshman Class 2018)

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Partners with Articles IV, V, VI

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: LETTERS OF INTENT W/OUT ATHLETIC GRANT-IN-AID

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|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: V – Letters of Intent Section: 3. H Page: 16
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date:

Presenter: Jim Martineau

Current Policy/Procedure:

Section 3 H. Only the NWAC Letter of Intent form will be used. College Letters of Intent will not be valid and may bring the school using them penalties as determined by the Executive Board. All Letters of Intent must show a minimum of at least \$100 total being given to the student-athlete.

Intent: Removes the \$100 minimum amount from the codebook.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

Section 3. H. Only the NWAC Letter of Intent form will be used. College Letters of Intent will not be valid and may bring the school using them penalties as determined by the Executive Board.

Rationale: Allows coaches and student-athlete to sign an LOI and be committed to an institution even if the sports program has used all of its' athletic grant-in-aid for the academic year. Provides clarity to both the institution and student-athlete about their responsibilities to each other.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None

History: Current policy passed in 2014 and implemented July 2015

Date of implementation: Winter 2018 (Freshman Class 2018)

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Partners with Articles IV, V, VI

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement (RSASA)

| | | | |
|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: V Section: IV (NEW) Page: 16
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date:

Presenter: Jim Martineau

Current Policy/Procedure: No current language.

Intent: As the NWAC continues to evolve, recruiting areas grow, and recruiting become more competitive, the Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement will make obligations for student-athletes and member colleges clear.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

Student-athletes who are re-signed for a second year to an institutional grant-in-aid and/or Letter of Intent/Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement and who are eligible (Article V, Section 3.G) must be awarded at minimum, the same amount of athletic grant-in-aid the second year. If the student-athlete chooses not to re-sign with the host institution and wishes to transfer to a member institution, the following applies:

- Student-athletes who are a participant and/or signed to a current Letter of Intent (LOI) must sit out three (3) terms (exclusive of summer) after separation from the athletic program. (Article III, Section 18, Page 11, NWAC Codebook)

The athletic grant-in-aid/Letter of Intent/Returning Student-Athlete Second Year Signing Agreement must be completed, signed, and copies provided to the student-athlete, institution, and the NWAC office by June 15. This does not apply to athletic grant-in-aid that was cancelled per Article V, Section 3, G, or for student-athletes that do not meet the academic requirements set by the college.

Rationale:

1. Provides institutions and student-athletes a written agreement that clarifies what is being offered and agreed upon by both parties.
2. Provides a safeguard from other colleges "poaching" players after the first season of competition.
3. Another step to clarifying a significant issue involved with recruiting.
4. Provides student-athletes with clear information regarding their situation.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None

History: N/A

Date of implementation: Winter Quarter 2018 (Freshman Class 2018)

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? This partners with Articles IV & VI

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia

Character, Competition, Community



Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement

Student-athletes who are re-signed for a second year to an institutional grant-in-aid and/or Letter of Intent and who are eligible (Article V, Section 3, G) must be awarded at minimum, the same amount of athletic grant-in-aid the second year, or the student-athlete shall be allowed to transfer to any NWAC member college. This athletic grant-in-aid/Letter of Intent must be signed by June 15. This does not apply to athletic grant-in-aid that was cancelled per Article V, Section 3, G, or for student-athletes that do not meet the academic requirements set by the college.

Name of Student-Athlete: _____ NWAC Institution: _____

Sport: _____ Academic Year: _____

| Current Year Offer | Summer | Fall | Winter | Spring | Total |
|---------------------|--------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| Scholarship (WA/ID) | | | | | |
| Tuition Waiver | | | | | |
| Employment | | | | | |

| Second Year Offer | Summer | Fall | Winter | Spring | Total |
|--------------------|--------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| Scholarship (W/ID) | | | | | |
| Tuition Waiver | | | | | |
| Employment | | | | | |

PLEASE CHECK ONE THAT APPLIES:

- Scholarship/Letter of Intent was offered at the same amount or higher and accepted by the student-athlete.
- Scholarship/Letter of Intent was offered for the same amount or higher and refused by the student-athlete. Student-athlete must sit out three quarters barring an appeal to the NWAC office
- Scholarship/Letter of Intent was offered at a lesser amount and accepted by the student-athlete.
- Scholarship/Letter of Intent was offered at a lesser amount and refused by the student-athlete. Student-athlete may transfer to another NWAC member college AND is eligible to play.
- Scholarship/Letter of Intent was not offered for the second year. Student-athlete may transfer to another NWAC member college AND is eligible to play.
- Scholarship/Letter of Intent cancellation per Article V, Section 3, G. Student-athlete must sit out three quarters barring an appeal to the NWAC office.

Coach: _____ Date: _____

Student-Athlete: _____ Date: _____

Athletic Director: _____ Date: _____

Please keep this form on file in case of audit. A copy of this form must be given to the student-athlete and to the NWAC office.

By June 15 of each academic year this form must be completed, signed and copies provided to the student-athlete, the institution, and the NWAC office.



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Athletic Recruiting Ethics

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|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: VI Section: 5 (NEW) Page: 17
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date:

Presenter: Jim Martineau

Current Policy/Procedure: Any staff member of an NWAC member institution, or any other representative of the member institution's athletic interests, desiring to contact a prospective student-athlete who is already committed to another member college shall first contact that institution's athletic director in writing regarding the she student-athlete. Contact may be made only when such permission is granted. This rule applies to:

- Prospective student-athletes who are already enrolled at another member college.
- Prospective student-athletes who have already signed a Letter of Intent with another member college but have not yet attend classes.

Intent: To have NWAC college representatives honor student-athletes' commitments at respective institutions.

Proposed Policy/Procedure: Any staff member or an NWAC member institution, or any other representative of the member institution's athletic interests, desiring to contact a prospective student-athlete who is already committed (***student-athlete is on an eligibility roster or has signed a Letter of Intent***) to another member college shall first contact that institutions' athletic director in writing (***texts, emails, social media***) regarding the student-athlete. Contact with student-athlete may be made only when such permission is granted.

*Student-athletes who are already committed to another member institution shall be deemed recruitable on June 16 provided they have not signed a LOI and/or the Returning Student-Athlete Signing Agreement.

Rationale: Provides ethical standards for NWAC coaches to adhere to when recruiting.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None

History:

Date of implementation: Winter 2018 (Freshman Class 2018)

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Partners with Articles IV & V

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: BASEBALL – LOI NOVEMBER DATE

| | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: V Section: 3B Page: 16
 Sport: Baseball Rule: Page: Effective Date: July 2017

Presenter: Mark Yoshino

Current Policy/Procedure: Letter of Intents will be sent to student athlete’s email addresses for the following sports on or after: January 15 – Volleyball, Cross Country, Soccer, Golf, Baseball, Softball, Tennis and Track & Field.

Intent: Was moved from April 1 since many potential student-athletes are considering the two-year college route earlier since they did not receive four-year college scholarships which are generally issued in November prior. Waiting until April 1 also put many incoming student-athletes in an unfair position in regards to applying for federal financial aid since the deadline for federal aid at individual institutions is often before April 1. Rule change has been beneficial with hundreds of student-athletes now signing with NWAC schools in between January 15 and April 1 in all sports with the exception of basketball.

Proposed Policy/Procedure: Letter of Intents will be sent to student athlete’s email addresses for baseball on or after: **November 1** (prior year). Letter of Intents will be sent to student athlete’s email addresses for the following sports on or after: January 15 – Volleyball, Cross Country, Soccer, Golf, ~~Baseball~~, Softball, Tennis and Track & Field.

Rationale: 26 of the 28 NWAC schools that offer baseball had players signing LOI’s in January. A total of 149 signed for baseball in January. Only 38 more signed in April. The volume indicates baseball student-athletes want to sign early. Baseball coaches often recruit during the summer months due to weather. Recruiting evaluations are generally wrapped up the summer prior, and at latest, the fall months of September and October. Once November arrives, the weather is too cold to evaluate baseball players in a realistic setting. The NCAA and NJCAA sign periods are also in November. In baseball, the recruiting culture at the four-year level is shifting towards earlier commitment. High school seniors generally are not playing their spring seasons for a recruiting opportunity: it’s too late in the year.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: -

Impact on Student-Athlete’s Time (Academic and/or Athletics): -

History: The NJCAA recently announced a move of their sign date to November. NWAC Executive Director, Executive Board, regions, and sport committees looked at possible benefits of NWAC following. Without much interest from a conference as a whole, the baseball sport committee has found interest within their sport.

Date of implementation: July 2017 (November 1, 2017 would be first day for potential student-athlete to be able to sign for the 2018-19 season).

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain -

Codes that involve significant budgetary changes may go into effect the next fiscal year.-

Signature: Mark Yoshino



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: NWAC Letter of Intent Signing Date

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|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: V Letters of Intent Section: 3.B Page: 16
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date: July 2017

Presenter: Marco Azurdia

Current Policy/Procedure:

- B. Letter of intents will be sent to student athlete's email addresses for the following sports on or after: January 15 - Volleyball, Cross Country, Soccer, Golf, Baseball, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field
 April 1 - Men's and Women's Basketball.

Intent: The new signing date will provide consistency for all sports within the NWAC.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

- B. The NWAC signing date for NWAC Letters of Intent will begin November 1.

Rationale: Allows student-athletes to make their commitment official in the fall. Student-athletes are engaged in their college and career search early in their high school careers. Provides a consistent standard for all sports. Allows for member colleges to sign student-athletes at the same time as NCAA early signees.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None

History:

Date of implementation: November 2017

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Athletic Recruiting- Reimbursement of Travel Expenses

| | | | |
|---------|---|--|---|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: VI – Athletic Recruiting Section: 3 Page: 16
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date:

Presenter: AL WILLIAMS

Current Policy/Procedure:

Section 3. Visiting recruits may be eligible to receive meals and lodging not to exceed state per diem. Expenses shall be limited to the equivalent of only one day (24 hour period). Institutions shall not expend state funds to compensate visiting recruits for meals or lodging. Such expenses may legally be paid only from contributed funds, booster clubs, or gifts, that is, not state or public funds. Student recruits will pay their own transportation expenses.

Intent: The intent of the rule was to minimize expenses related to recruiting and document the source of funds used to pay for recruiting expenses.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

Section 3. Visiting recruits may be eligible to receive meals and lodging not to exceed state per diem. Expenses shall be limited to the equivalent of only one day (24 hour period). Institutions shall not expend state funds to compensate visiting recruits for meals or lodging. Such expenses may legally be paid only from contributed funds, booster clubs, or gifts, that is, not state or public funds.

Reasonable travel expenses may be provided to student recruits from their home area to the campus and return. Travel expenses cannot be provided to an alternate location. Travel expenses are limited to gas reimbursement for ground transportation, or roundtrip coach accommodations via bus, train or air. Such expenses may legally be paid only from contributed funds, booster clubs, or gifts, that is, not state or public funds.

Rationale: The rules related to reimbursement for travel expenses for recruits have not been reviewed for several years. With the expansion of the NWAC recruitable region and related states and provinces, the distance that students have to travel to visit on a recruiting trip have potentially expanded dramatically. With the understanding that many students qualify for financial aid and do not have the financial means to pay for recruiting visits, it is a reasonable request to provide assistance to students to visit the campus where they will attend school. Expecting students to select and attend a college without the opportunity to visit if they are financial unable is unreasonable.

Estimated Budget Impact: Reimbursement for travel will come from contributed funds, booster clubs, or gifts, that is, not state or public funds.

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): The proposed rule change for travel reimbursement may be utilized at the institution's discretion. It allows the institution to assist and accommodate those students that cannot afford to visit the campus on their own.

History: The selection process for college is one of the more significant decisions made by high school students in their academic career. Increasing the opportunity for students to visit the campus prior to commitment can assist in recruiting, retention, and completion towards graduation.

Signature: Al Williams

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Athletic Recruiting- 48 hour recruiting period

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|---------|---|--|---|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: VI – Athletic Recruiting Section: 3 Page: 16
 Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date:

Presenter: Al Williams

Current Policy/Procedure:

Section 3. Visiting recruits may be eligible to receive meals and lodging not to exceed state per diem. Expenses shall be limited to the equivalent of only one day (24 hour period). Institutions shall not expend state funds to compensate visiting recruits for meals or lodging. Such expenses may legally be paid only from contributed funds, booster clubs, or gifts, that is, not state or public funds. Student recruits will pay their own transportation expenses.

Intent: The intent of the rule was to minimize expenses related to recruiting and document the source of funds used to pay for recruiting expenses.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

Section 3. Visiting recruits may be eligible to receive meals and lodging not to exceed state per diem. Expenses shall be limited to the equivalent of **only two days (48 hour period)**. Institutions shall not expend state funds to compensate visiting recruits for meals or lodging. Such expenses may legally be paid only from contributed funds, booster clubs, or gifts, that is, not state or public funds. Student recruits will pay their own transportation expenses.

Rationale: With the expansion of the NWAC recruitable region and related states and provinces, the distance that students have to travel to visit on a recruiting trip have potentially expanded dramatically. To fully participate in the experience of a college athletic recruiting visit, ample time should be allowed for the student to meet with teammates, meet with members of athletic and academic administration, tour the campus and community, attend a classroom visit, and have an opportunity to work out if desired. Weather conditions can impact travel plans and workouts for outdoor sports, and scheduling meetings with various academic department is difficult in a 24-hour window. Expanding the maximum recruiting period by 24 hours will allow students to participate in a quality visit without being rushed and provide adequate time for a sufficient evaluation.

Estimated Budget Impact: Potentially lodging and meals for a second day

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): The 48 hour recruiting visit window is the maximum allowable timeframe, not a mandate. The proposed rule change may be utilized at the institution's discretion. The proper planning and usage of an extended recruiting visit may potentially impact the number of student transfers and/or withdrawals.

History: The selection process for college is one of the more significant decisions made by high school students in their academic career. Improving the process to facilitate an informed decision can assist in recruiting, retention, and completion towards graduation.

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Article VIII GR Coaching Standards

| | | | |
|-------------|---|---|--|
| Source: AAG | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: VIII Section: 21 & 22 Page:

Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date: July 2017

Presenter: Marco Azurdia

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|--------------------------------|
| Current Policy/Procedure: None |
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| Intent: Institute and elucidate minimum standards for coaches in the NWAC |
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| <p>Proposed Policy/Procedure:</p> <p>Section 21. Coaching Handbook and Concussion Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The NWAC shall adopt and maintain an NWAC Coaching Handbook for the purpose of helping coaches understand the mission of the NWAC and coaching expectations. The handbook shall include the NWAC Coaches Code of Conduct, minimum coaching standards, training requirements or recommendations, professional development opportunities, and such other information as may be helpful in promoting effective coaching of student-athletes. In addition, the NWAC shall maintain a Concussion Management Plan which shall be distributed to coaches along with the Coaching Handbook and published on the NWAC website B. NWAC coaches are expected to abide by the NWAC Coaches Code of Conduct and must meet the minimum coaching standards set forth in the NWAC Coaching Handbook. Specifically, all NWAC coaches must pass the NWAC Codebook General Test and the applicable NWAC Sport Specific Test. Coaches must also review the NWAC Concussion Management Plan and take the concussion training provided online. In addition, coaches are encouraged to maintain current CPR and First Aid certifications, as appropriate. It is the responsibility of the member colleges to determine which coaching positions should receive the recommended CPR/First Aid training. <p>Section 22 NWAC Coaching Standards</p> <p>The minimum standards are intended to be met by all coaches in the NWAC. Standards A, B, C, and D must be met before coaching (within three weeks of their individual sport start date) in the NWAC. Standard E must be met within the first three weeks of coaching. In addition, NWAC recommends that colleges encourages their coaches to maintain current CPR and First Aid certifications (Standard F). College are also encouraged to perform criminal background checks upon hiring new coaches and to conduct annual coaching performance evaluations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Provide official documentation of at least a high school diploma or equivalent, preferably an Associate’s or Bachelor’s degree. B. Document experience in the sport as a player and/or coach, preferably at the college level. C. Read the NWAC Coaches Code of Conduct. D. Read the NWAC Concussion Management Plan and take the concussion training provided online. E. Pass the NWAC Codebook General Test, and the NWAC Sport Specific Test for the coach’s particular sport. F. In addition, NWAC recommends that coaches maintain current CPR and First Aid certifications as applicable. It is the responsibility of the colleges to determine which coaching positions should receive the recommended training and monitor the NWAC minimum standards. G. Van training is required for any coach who will or may be driving a college van to transport student-athletes to athletic events. It is the responsibility of the colleges to determine which coaching positions should receive the required training. |
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**Items 1 & 2 are provided when a coach is hired. Items 3, 4, & 5 are done yearly and as follows: (Fall-No later than 8/21), (Winter and Spring Sports-No later than 9/21). Item 6 it is recommended that institutions insure that coaches maintain current CPR and First Aid certifications. Colleges are required to maintain up to date records on the NWAC coaching minimum standards.*

Rationale:

Makes clear the minimum standards for NWAC coaches, identifies who is accountable to certify and manage the standards, and eliminates the phantom NWAC coaching certificate.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: Minimal at most

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): None

History:

Date of implementation: July 2017

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: Tryout Policy

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|---------|---|---|--|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Constitution Bylaw Article: Section: 23 New Page: 24

Sport: Rule: Page: Effective Date: July, 2017

Presenter: Marco Azurdia

Current Policy/Procedure: N/A in the NWAC. Following is what is done at other levels:

- *Division III schools are not allowed to hold practice tryouts with college-bound student-athletes.
- *Only Division I men’s basketball is allowed to hold tryouts. Those tryouts are limited to prospective student-athletes who are seniors in high school, community college transfers or four-year transfers who have completed their basketball season. They must also be on an official or unofficial visit to the campus.

The on-campus evaluations are limited to two hours per week, whether during the collegiate season or out of it. The two hours must take place during the regular allowable practice time (20 hours during the season, eight hours out of it).

- *Division II schools are allowed to hold one practice or tryout for a college-bound student-athlete on its campus as long as the student-athlete is a high school senior who is enrolled in a term other than the term in which the traditional season in the sport occurs. The school may conduct a medical examination of the student-athlete and the tryout may include tests to evaluate the student-athlete’s strength, speed, agility, and sport skills. The tryout may include competition except in football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer and wrestling. The tryout is limited to the length of the school’s normal practice period in the sport, but in no event can it be longer than the two hours. The school may loan equipment and clothing to the college-bound student-athlete during the tryout.
- *NAIA there are no restrictions regarding tryouts with college-bound student-athletes.
- *CAAAA does not allow tryouts because of liability concerns and waivers won’t stand up in court.
- *NJCAA A. General Information & Definitions:
 - A.1. Audition Definition: An audition is any organized recruiting event for prospective student-athletes that is open to the general public held in an effort to fill roster spots on one or more of a member college’s athletic teams. An audition is not related to an official or unofficial visit.
 - A.2. Physical Examination: A prospective student-athlete participating in an audition must provide verification that he/she has received a physical examination administered by a qualified health care professional within 13 months prior to the tryout/audition.
 - A.3. Location: A member college must conduct auditions of prospective student-athletes only on its campus or at a site at which the member college has been approved to conduct its practices or competition as their “Home Venue”.
 - A.4. Participation of current student-athletes: Current student-athletes or student-athlete who are signed to an NJCAA LOI may not participate in auditions.
- B. Duration & Maximums:
 - B.1. Auditions may not exceed two (2) hours per individual.
 - B.2. A college may conduct a maximum of two (2) auditions per sport per academic year.
 - B.3. A college may conduct a maximum of one (1) audition per prospective student-athlete per year.
- C. Expenditure of Funds:
 - C.1. A member college may not expend funds on prospective student-athletes prior to, during, or after the tryout/audition.
 - C.1.a. Includes, but not limited to, provision of transportation, meals, souvenirs and gifted clothing or equipment.
 - C.2. A member college may provide equipment and/or clothing to prospective student-athletes while participating in an audition on an issuance and retrieval basis.
- D. Eligible Prospective Student-Athletes:
 - D.1. A prospective student-athlete must have completed his/her junior year in high school or home school equivalent to participate in an audition.
 - D.2. A member college must determine if auditions are allowed by the prospective student-athlete’s State High School Activities Association/School District before allowing the prospective student-athlete to participate in the audition.

Intent: To have an NWAC policy in place regarding tryouts for college-bound student-athletes who participate in tryouts at NWAC institutions.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

A tryout is any organized recruiting event for prospective student-athletes that is held in an effort to fill roster spots on one or more of a member college's athletic teams.

1. It is recommended that this opportunity take place in a term other than the term in which the high school traditional season of that sport occurs.
2. It is recommended that the student-athlete participating provide medical verification that he/she has received medical clearance by a qualified health care professional within 13 months of the tryout.
3. It is recommended that the member college determine if this activity is allowed by the prospective student-athlete's State High School Activities Association/School District before allowing the prospective student-athlete to participate in the tryout.
4. The school may loan equipment and clothing to the college-bound student-athlete during the tryout.

Rationale: To provide consistency, safety procedures, and integrity to the recruiting tryout process so that prospective student-athletes, coaches, and administration are clear on the policy and procedure for NWAC tryouts.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: None

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): Very minimal

History: N/A

Date of implementation: July 2017

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain.

Codes that involve budgetary changes will be in effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Marco Azurdia



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL – EARLY START DATE (OPTION A)

Source: Sports Committee [] Executive Board [] Region N [] E [] W [] S [x]

Constitution [] Bylaw [] Article: Section: Page: Sport: Baseball & Softball Rule: 300 Page: 25 & 46 Effective Date: July 2017

Presenter: Kim Hyatt and Duncan Stevenson

Current Policy/Procedure: Baseball Sport Season Calendar 300.1 Playing Season. Each institution shall be allowed a total of 12 weeks for fall baseball and preseason practice... 300.2 Spring. No games or scrimmages with other teams other than intra-squad will be played prior to March 1. Softball Sport Season Calendar 300.2 Spring – No contests prior to March 1, unless an earlier date is established by the Executive Board’s annual calendar... 300.3 Fall – Playing Season – Each institution shall be allowed a total of 12 weeks for fall softball and preseason practice...

Intent: To provide more flexibility in scheduling our games to keep students in the classroom and provide an opportunity for more weekend games to get in the allotted games per season. The current code can eliminate a weekend for a team if March 1st falls within the week. For example, March 1st falls on a Wednesday this week. This proposal does not change the number of contest dates and has no impact on cost.

Proposed Policy/Procedure: Baseball Sport Season Calendar 300.1 – Practice – Each institution shall be allowed a total of 12 weeks for Fall and Spring preseason practice, which may be utilized between the dates of September 1 through November 15, and January 2 through March 1. Each institution must report to the NWAC office, by August 31, the time periods in which the 12 weeks will be utilized. 300.2 – Playing Season – The first Spring contest shall not be played prior to the third Friday of February, and no earlier than February 20. Softball Sport Season Calendar (Delete current 300.1, as this is covered in Section 500, “Schedule”, Item 500.1) New 300.1 – Practice – Each institution shall be allowed a total of 12 weeks for Fall and Spring preseason practice, which may be utilized between the dates of September 1 through November 15, and January 2 through March 1. Each institution must report to the NWAC office, by August 31, the time periods in which the 12 weeks will be utilized. New 300.2 – Playing Season – The first Spring contest shall not be played prior to the third Friday of February, and no earlier than February 20.

(Revision 2.0) 25

Rationale: Early Baseball and Softball starting date would be the third Friday of February but no earlier than Feb. 20th. The additional time allows for more games to be played on weekends and keep students in the classroom. Many facilities do not have lights forcing early games during the week and pushing students to miss more class time.

An earlier starting date will offer a greater span of time for future four-year institutions to recruit potential NWAC student-athletes and permit for more dates from probable rain outs.

This could conceivably allow for less back-up in games due to inclement weather. This also distributes out the playing season and allows for more potential study time. It will give flexibility to coaches in regards to scheduling and potential scheduling conflicts.

Extending out the contests may also potentially provide for a healthier athlete.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: No added contests and should not impact budget

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): Will actually provide more available study time as the student-athletes may not be impacted every weekend. Spreading out the available weekends may also allow for teams to take off the weekend prior to finals and allow for greater student success.

History: With the addition of the play-off system, baseball has lost a weekend for regular season play and for make-up games. This provides teams with the opportunity to get this weekend back without impacting playoff system.

Date of implementation: July, 2017

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain – None known at this time – perhaps other spring sports should be included or have similar proposals.

Codes that involve significant budgetary changes may go into effect the next fiscal year



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: BASKETBALL – FIRST CONTEST

| | | | |
|---------|---|--|---|
| Source: | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---------|---|--|---|

Constitution Bylaw Article: Section: Page:
 Sport: Basketball Rule: 300.2 Page: 29 Effective Date: July 2018

Presenter: Duncan Stevenson

Current Policy/Procedure:

300.2 – Playing Season – The first contest shall not be played prior to the third Friday in November. No contest may be played after the last regular season scheduled playing date as established by region.

Intent: To adjust the scheduling period in the preseason calendar to better accommodate the number of preseason contests allowed.

Proposed Policy/Procedure:

300.2 – Playing Season – The first contest shall not be played prior to the **fourth** Friday in November (**or the weekend immediately following the NWAC Volleyball Championship Tournament**). No contest may be played after the last regular season scheduled playing date as established by **each** region.

Rationale: The change in dates of the NWAC basketball playoffs – to the second and third weekend in March – has created significant gaps in the scheduling calendar, from the first official contest date, to the first league contest date. Delaying the date of the first contest by one week will; 1) help to reduce these gaps, and 2) will eliminate the overlap of the start of the basketball season and the volleyball championships.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: **None.**

Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics): **None.**

History:

Date of implementation: **July 2018 (2017 if agreeable to the members of the Commission).**

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain **None.**

Codes that involve significant budgetary changes may go into effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: *Duncan Stevenson*

Character, Competition, Community



CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

TITLE: BASKETBALL – TOURNAMENT LIMITATIONS

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|---|
| Source: North Region | Sports Committee <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive Board <input type="checkbox"/> | Region N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> |
|----------------------|---|--|---|

Constitution Bylaw Article: III Section: 3, E Page: 8
 Sport: Basketball Rule: 500.2 Page: 29 Effective Date: July 2017

Presenter: Steve Epperson

Current Policy/Procedure:

CURRENT RULE:

500.2 Teams may participate in two (2), double elimination tournaments and the required Cross-Over Tournament and each tournament will count the number of guaranteed games in each tournament towards their total of twenty-six (26). The required crossover tournament will count as two games regardless of four-team or eight team format. Passed 6/3/16; Effective 7/1/16
 2016-17 NWAC CODEBOOK — 29

500.3 In any additional tournaments participated in, all games played must be counted toward the total of twenty-six (26). Game limits do not include regional tiebreakers, or regional mini- tournaments. Passed 6/3/16; Effective 7/1/16

Intent:**Proposed Policy/Procedure:**

PROPOSED RULE:

Teams may participate in two (2) tournaments and the required Cross-Over Tournament and each of these three tournaments will count as two games for scheduling purposes. These three (3) tournaments may be either double elimination or round robin with a maximum of three (3) games allowed per team. At the discretion of the tournament director an 8 team tournament may allow all teams to have a game on the final day of the tournament.

500.3 Any additional tournaments participated in, all games played must be counted toward the total of twenty-six (26). Game limits do not include regional tiebreakers, or regional mini- tournaments.

Rationale:

Rationale: This format would allow for the following:

1. No one would have to travel a day in advance because there would only be two games in a 4 team tournament or 3 games if 6 teams were involved the first day.
2. The cost of the tournament could decrease for Host.
3. Game management could decrease from 11 games (each team would still get three games guaranteed) (Take financial and staffing pressure off host school)
4. Officials cost could be reduced from 11 games (Take financial pressure off host school)
5. Schedule predictability with preset games rather than game times dependent on winning/losing
6. It is getting difficult to find 8 teams to participate in weekend tournaments.
7. Teams are much more likely to travel to tournaments farther away if they know they will play three games.
8. Crossover format worked very well this past season
9. There seems to be more instances where tournaments are having to be filled with alumni or AAU teams.

Describe any estimated budget impact this may have: **May slightly increase costs for teams that would have played and lost first two games in an 8 team tournament. Game management costs could decrease in some cases.**

Impact on Student-Athlete’s Time (Academic and/or Athletics): Little effect

History: 1st year of the 4 team crossover was very successful and popular with teams and coaches. This format would allow a men’s and women’s crossover tournament to be expanded to 6 teams allowing all NWAC schools the opportunity to participate rather than having two men’s and women’s teams excluded.

Date of implementation: 17-18 scheduling year

What other codes or articles in the codebook will this change affect? Please explain
Codes that involve significant budgetary changes may go into effect the next fiscal year.

Signature: Steve Epperson