

**2004 Division III Legislative Proposals  
SAAC Positions and Rationale**

**Proposal No. 55 - Financial Aid - Athletics Endowments. The committee supported the proposal.**

- Equal playing field with respect to recruiting
- Consistent with the Division III philosophy.
- Allows money to go to athletic operations.

**Proposal No. 56 - Financial Aid - Annual Electronic Reporting Process. The committee supported the proposal.**

- Increases enforcement and compliance.
- Equalizes the playing field.
- Helps eliminate discrepancies in financial aid to student-athletes and non student-athletes.
- Does not seem like it is a burden on schools since the data will be sent to the NCAA from the schools financial aid system.
- All students and students-athletes are included in the audit, which will eliminate concerns regarding random selection.

**Proposal No. 57 as amended by 57 - 1 - Eligibility - Determining Season of Eligibility - Minimum Amount of Participation. The committee opposed the proposal.**

- Majority of college students graduate in 5 years not 4 years.
- The general student body is not limited to 4 years of participation in their desired extracurricular activity.
- Student-athletes seem to be more focused with better time management when in season.
- Should be a student-athlete's choice to only practice and not compete.

**Proposal No. 58 - Philosophy Statement - Recruiting. The committee took no position on the proposal.**

**Proposal No. 59 - Recruiting - Permission to Contact - Self-Release. The committee supported the proposal.**

- Allows a student-athlete to inquire about transferring without negative repercussions from coaches.
- Other students involved in extracurricular activities do not need a release to go to another institution in order to participate in their desired activity.

- The institution the student-athlete wishes to transfer will still need to check on academic records.
- Integrity of student-athletes needs to be trusted.
- Division III student-athletes pay for their own education, should have the freedom to transfer.

**Proposal No. 60 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Length of Seasons and Contest Limits. The committee opposed the proposal.**

- By reducing the contests it impacts scheduling of independent institutions.
- Survey didn't have the desired input from the student-athletes.
- 10 % contest reduction over four year period equals almost half a season for many sports (40% reduction).

**Proposal No. 61 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Length of Playing Season. The committee supported the proposal.**

- Most sports are not using their maximum allowable 21 weeks.
- Agree there needs to be cleaning up of bylaw 17.
- Student-athletes feel reduction in weeks is a good compromise.

**Proposal No. 62 as amended by 62-1 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Nontraditional Segment - Elimination of Contests. The committee opposed the proposal.**

- Competition is the reason student-athletes play.
- Competition helps keep practices from getting stale.
- Non-traditional seasons are when some student-athletes get most of their playing time.
- Student-athletes do not want to decrease their opportunities to compete.
- Decreases the diversity of Division III and the opportunities that are available.

**Proposal No. 63 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Nontraditional Segment - Practice and Contest Limitations. The committee opposed the proposal.**

- The non-traditional season allows for the coach to actually teach fundamentals; the traditional season is spent preparing for the upcoming contests.
- 16 opportunities are not enough to get the appropriate amount of repetitions.

**Proposal No. 64 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Elimination of Out-of-Season Exception. The committee supported the proposal.**

- It's not fair that some student-athletes get to practice all year round, while others do not.
- An institution would not have a swimming pool open if they did not have someone in charge to supervise it.

**Proposal No. 65 as amended by 65-1 - Multidivision Classification - Awarding of Athletics Aid.** The committee supported the proposal with the amendment.

- No competitive advantage for the Division III sports at the eight institutions.
- Division III student-athletes are not the athletes receiving athletics scholarships.
- Takes away from the institution's tradition.
- Lack of proof that recruitment advantage occurs from sponsoring a Division I sport.

**Proposal No. 66 - Division III Strategic Planning and Membership Growth.** The committee took no position.

**Proposal No. 67 - Executive Regulations - Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation - Automatic Qualification.** The committee will address this proposal in January.

**Proposal No. 68 as amended by 68-1 - Membership - Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership - Certification of Insurance Coverage.** The committee supported the proposal with the amendment.

- Protects the health and welfare of student-athletes.
- Delayed effective date will allow for institutions to be well informed of the certification process.

**Proposal No. 69 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Annual Exemptions.** The committee supported the proposal.

- Would give independents a similar competitive opportunity as those institutions in a conference.

**Proposal No. 70 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Coaching Activities Outside the Playing Season.** The committee supported the proposal.

- A coach is already permitted to travel with the student-athlete so the coach should also be allowed to engage in coaching activities.
- The student-athlete has received the coaching necessary to put them in this elite situation, he or she should be allowed to fulfill his or her destiny and compete at the highest level on the Championship or Olympic platform with the appropriate coaching.

**Proposal No. 71 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Exception to First Contest Date - Exhibition Contests - Basketball.** The committee supported the proposal.

- This would create a memorable experience for a Division III student-athlete.
- Does not increase allowable contests.
- This would be a great financial boost for a Division III institution.

**Proposal No. 72 - Playing and Practice Seasons - Track and Field - Maximum Contest Limitations - Multi-Day Events. The committee supported the proposal.**

- Combined-event competition occurs over a two-day period.
- Increases competitive opportunities.
- This would not force a track athlete into competing in an unrealistic number of contests during one day.