

## **Division III Sports Sponsorship and Championships**

1. Sport Sponsorship [NCAA Bylaw 20.11.3].
  - a. A member institution shall sponsor a minimum number of sports.
  - b. All sports used to meet minimum requirements must meet minimum contest and participant requirements per Bylaw 20.11.3.5.
2. Acceptable Sports [Bylaw 20.11.3.1].
  - Sports designated to meet the sports sponsorship criteria shall:
    - (1) Be among those in which the Association sponsors a championship.
    - (2) Be recognized by the institution as varsity intercollegiate sports.
    - (3) Involve all-male teams, mixed teams of males and females or all-female teams.
3. Current Sports Sponsorship.
  - A member institution shall sponsor a minimum of:
    - (1) Five varsity sports for all-male teams or mixed teams.
    - (2) Five varsity sports for all-female teams.
    - (3) Including three team sports for each gender.
    - (4) One sport conducted in each sport season for each gender.
4. 2010 Sports Sponsorship [Effective -- August 1, 2010] -- [Bylaw 20.11.3].
  - a. A member institution shall sponsor a minimum number of sports based on institutional enrollment.
  - b. Enrollment of 1,000 students or less.
    - (1) Five all-male teams (or mixed teams).
      - (a) Three team sports.
      - (b) One sport in each sport season.
    - (2) Five all-female teams.
      - (a) Three team sports.
      - (b) One sport in each sport season.
  - c. Enrollment of more than 1,000 students.
    - (1) Six all-male teams (or mixed teams).
      - (a) Three team sports.

- (b) One sport in each sport season.
  - (2) Six All-female teams.
    - (a) Three team sports.
    - (b) One sport in each sport season.
5. Counting Multi-season Sports [Bylaw 20.11.3.4].
- If sponsors same sport in two different seasons:
    - (1) May only count in season in which participate in most contests.
    - (2) Majority of contests or dates of competition:
      - (a) September -- December = Fall Sport
      - (b) December -- March = Winter Sport
      - (c) February -- May = Spring Sport
6. Minimum Contests and Participants Requirements -- Sports Sponsorship [Bylaw 20.11.3.5].
- Requirements for sports sponsorship.
    - (1) Against varsity programs of four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions.
    - (2) Individual sports need a minimum number of participants in each contest counted toward meeting the minimum-contests requirement.
7. Contests Versus Club Teams [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.7].
- A contest against a collegiate institution's club team may not be counted toward meeting the minimum-contest requirements. However, a member is not precluded from scheduling club teams.
8. Completion of Contest [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.1].
- To count as a contest, the institution's team actually shall participate in and complete the contest.
    - Scheduled contests that are canceled or not completed may not be counted. In accordance with the playing rules of the sport in question.
9. Counting Multi-Contest Events [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.3].
- In the team sports, each game in a double-header, triple-header or tournament shall be counted as one contest.

10. Multi-Team Events -- Individual Sports [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.4].
  - a. Not more than two institution-versus-institution meetings shall be counted as contests. (e.g., quadrangular track and field meet).
  - b. If the institution achieves a single score in competition with the other competing institutions it shall be counted as one contest (e.g., a conference championship).
11. Meets No Team Scoring [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.4.1].
  - A meet at which no team scoring is kept counts as a contest: Provided the minimum number of participants participate on the institution's team.
12. Individual Sports-One or More Sites [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.5].
  - An institution may use a competition in meeting the minimum-contest requirements if:
    - (1) Minimum number of student-athletes.
    - (2) Participating on one or more teams.
    - (3) At one or more sites.
    - (4) On behalf of the institution on the same day.
    - (5) Equals or exceeds the minimum number of participants per Bylaw 20.11.3.5.
13. Contests in Two Seasons [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.6].
  - An institution sponsors the same sport in two different seasons. It may count contests in both seasons provided:
    - a. Regular varsity competition is sponsored in both seasons; and
    - b. Is listed on the institution's official schedule.
14. Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field [Bylaw 20.11.3.5.8].
  - Sponsoring both indoor and outdoor track and field, requires:
    - a. Participation in a total of at least 11 indoor and outdoor meets.
    - b. Including at least three indoor and three outdoor meets.
15. Waivers.
  - a. Minimum contests and participants.
  - b. Minimum contests.
  - c. Waivers of sports sponsorship.

- d. Male-female enrollment ratio waiver.
  - e. Single-gender institution transitioning to coeducational institution.
  - f. Three-season sport waiver.
16. Championships Selection -- Bylaw 31.3.3.
17. Countable Competition [Bylaw 31.3.3.1].
- a. Team-championship selection:
    - (1) Competition against varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that,
    - (2) Conduct a majority of their competition against varsity intercollegiate teams of,
    - (3) United States four-year, degree-granting institutions.
18. Countable Competition.
- a. Excluded Contests:
    - (1) Service teams.
    - (2) Professional teams.
    - (3) Semiprofessional teams.
    - (4) Amateur teams.
    - (5) Two-year colleges.
    - (6) Club teams.
19. Team Sport -- Championship Selection [Bylaw 31.3.3.2.1].
- a. Fifty-percent requirement.
  - b. At least 50 percent of scheduled competition against in-region opponents.
20. Team Sport -- Championship Selection [Bylaw 31.3.3.2.2].
- a. Countable in-region competition.
  - b. Teams played are located in the same established sport region or geographical region (NCAA Constitution 4.13.1.1), or
  - c. Within a 200 mile radius of each other, or
  - d. Are members of the same conference.