

**Intercollegiate Rowing Association
Eligibility and Infractions Committee**

Progress Towards Degree Waiver

Case Number: 2020-8

Decision Date: July 14, 2020

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I 14.4.3.1

Facts of the Case: Student-athlete took a leave of absence to pursue an internship. The internship required 40+ hours per week of time commitment, so a leave request was required. The student-athlete took this opportunity to explore a career path with limited recourses available at current institution. Student-athlete is in good academic standing and well positioned to graduate on time.

Additionally, this request for leave was approved on February 3, 2020, because the University office misplaced the student-athlete's request for leave. Had the school not lost this documentation, the leave would have been processed prior to the first day of classes for that semester (January 15).

Institutional Action: None required.

Decision: Processed by the Ivy League Office – on file

Rationale: All criteria was met for the waiver to be approved.

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Season of Competition Waiver

Case Number: 2020-09

Decision Date: August 5, 2020

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I Bylaw 12.8 Seasons of Competition

Facts of the Case: Student-athlete competed on a club team during his undergraduate degree. The institution is requesting this SA receive the same waiver for non-participation that NCAA-enrolled SA's were granted for the 2019-20 year.

Institutional Request: To allow the student-athlete to be granted an additional year of eligibility based on non-participation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Decision: Processed by the Pac12 Office – on file.

Rationale: With the cancellation of spring sport competitions because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NCAA has granted institutions the ability to self-apply a season-of-competition waiver for all NCAA spring sport student-athletes who competed during the 2019-20 academic year and who were eligible to compete during spring 2020.

While the SA was not enrolled at an NCAA institution, and therefore not a recipient of the waiver, he was still unable to compete during the 2019-20 year and met the additional waiver requirements.

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Memo

Case Number: N/A

Decision Date: August 10, 2020

Applicable Bylaws: Delayed Enrollment/Outside Competition Memo

Facts of the Case: The purpose of this memo is for the IRA membership to be aware of additional flexibility being granted this academic year regarding delayed enrollment for prospective student-athletes.

Updated Waiver for 2020-21 ONLY: The IRA Eligibility & Infractions Committee has considered the NCAA Division I waiver related to delayed enrollment and will adopt the following for the remainder of this academic year;

A student-athlete whose 20th birthday would have occurred prior to or during the 2020-21 academic year will be exempt from additional impacts of the delayed enrollment legislation until the beginning of the first regular academic term of the 2021-22 academic year.

Further, the waiver also applies to the national/international competition exception and the military exception.

Any institution with a PSA that will be utilizing this waiver of our delayed enrollment rule is required to contact the IRA eligibility office so appropriate paperwork is on file.

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Extension of Eligibility (Athletics Activity Waiver)

Case Number: 2020-10

Decision Date: August 14, 2020

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I 12.8.1.6 Athletics Activity Waiver

Facts of the Case: Student-athlete originally took 2019-20 semester to train for the Olympics with the intent to return to the institution in Fall 2020. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the institution's announcement to have a reduced number of students on campus, this SA had to reconsider options for the Fall semester.

SA chose to enroll in remote/virtual classes for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. This request would extend the SA's eligibility clock to six years to utilize four seasons of eligibility.

SA would like to extend his eligibility since his current plan is predicated on him not being able to participate in athletic activity during 2020-21 since the institution is not permitting sophomore students on campus during the fall and likely the spring semester

Institutional Action: No additional steps needed

Decision: Approved

Rationale: Extenuating circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, circumstances beyond control. Institution provided existing case precedent and provided all requested documentation and supporting materials.

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Legislative Relief Waiver

Case Number: 2020-11

Decision Date: October 29, 2020

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I: 12.4.4

Facts of the Case: Student-athlete has created a rowing machine that produces data in the form of charts and graphs, from workouts to demonstrate a user's performance. Specifically, SA wrote a coding program that converts workout data into digestible visuals. He does not provide any coaching, skill instruction, or technique suggestions; however, he would like to promote and sell his product in the rowing community.

Institutional Request: To allow a student-athlete to use his name, photograph, or appearance to promote a business and sell a product that he has created.

Decision: Approved by the Ivy League Office – on file.

Rationale: Based on the information provided and case precedent this has been approved based on the below conditions.

Applicant institution may not have any involvement with promotional activities related to the commercial product or service unless it is part of a class project or program, and that benefit is extended to every participant in the class/program.

No reference shall be made to the student-athlete's involvement in intercollegiate athletics in any promotion of the product.

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Secondary Violation – Time Period for Telephone Calls

Case Number: 2020-12

Decision Date: December 12, 2020

Applicable Bylaws: IRA Bylaws: Article I, Section A. Time Period for Telephone Calls – General Rule.

Facts of the Case: Institution’s coach mistakenly placed a 2022 recruit on his 2021 recruit list. Coach accidentally reached out to recruit to request a phone call. While reviewing transcripts it was discovered that SA was still in his junior year and impermissible contact was made.

Institutional Action: Coach self-reported the violation. Coach was educated on the IRA rule related to telephone rules. Self-imposed disciplinary action precluding the men’s rowing coaching staff to contact this PSA for two weeks after permissible contact window opens.

Additional Steps: None. Committee accepts the institution’s self-imposed actions based on precedence.

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Secondary Violation – Outside Competition

Case Number: 2021-01

Decision Date: March 3, 2021

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I: 17.17.9.1.1

Facts of the Case: Two men’s rowing student-athletes competed representing an outside team during the academic year. The violation was discovered by the Assistant Director of Compliance during a spot check of results for previously approved outside competitions across all sports.

The student-athletes paid for all their own travel, lodging, and other fees. The student-athletes followed the appropriate approval process required by the Compliance Office by completing Outside Competition Approval forms prior to departing for the race.

The student-athletes mistakenly believed that approval for the race included the ability to compete as part of an outside team if they did not receive any expenses or other benefits from the team.

Institutional Action: - Rules education was provided to the Men’s Rowing coaching staff and student- athletes; and - the involved student-athlete with eligibility remaining was declared ineligible pending reinstatement.

Additional Steps: None. Approved by based on case precedent.

Notes: The Eligibility and Infractions Committee reinstated the SA with eligibility remaining with a one-for-one withholding penalty.

**Intercollegiate Rowing Association
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Progress Towards Degree Waiver

Case Number: 2021-02

Decision Date: May 26, 2021

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I 14.4.3.1

Facts of the Case: Student-athlete initially enrolled at an institution in Fall 2019, that institution closed midway through Spring 2020 due to COVID-19. As a result, no credit hours were earned that semester.

The student-athlete then enrolled at the current institution in Fall 2020. The current institution has developed an enrollment plan that will allow the SA to graduate in five years since initial enrollment and meet PTD requirements after the completion of Fall 2021.

Institutional Action: None required.

Decision: Processed by the Ivy League Office – on file

Rationale: Based on the facts of this case and NCAA case precedent, the request has been granted.

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Secondary Violation – Time Period for Telephone Calls

Case Number: 2021-03

Decision Date: June 18, 2021

Applicable Bylaws: IRA Bylaws: Article I, Section A. Time Period for Telephone Calls – General Rule.

Facts of the Case: Assistant Coach accidentally emailed a 2023 PSA before July 1st after their junior year. The Assistant Coach realized their mistake and self-reported the violation to the compliance office.

Institutional Action: The men’s rowing coaching staff will not be allowed to send any recruiting materials/electronic correspondence to the PSA for a period of two weeks once it otherwise becomes permissible to send such recruiting materials/electronic correspondence. Coaching staff was reminded of first permissible contact date.

Additional Steps: None. Committee accepts the institution’s self-imposed actions based on precedence.

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Secondary Violation – Competition while Ineligible

Case Number: 2021-04

Decision Date: June 30, 2021

Applicable Bylaws: NCAA Division I: 14.4.3.1 (c)

Facts of the Case: Student enrolled in Fall of 2017-2018; left institution after the 2017-2018 academic year. Student returned during winter quarter of 2019-2020 academic year. No competition took place upon his return in 2019-2020 due to covid-19.

Student was remote until his return to campus in March of 2021. Student competed in 6 races while ineligible and received expenses related to travel for competition.

Student was enrolled full time in fall, winter, and spring quarters of 2020-21 but failed to meet 14.4.3.1(c) during the winter term as he only earned 3 credits. Student was certified as ineligible, but there was no communication to the student and coaching staff from compliance and academics, as there was a misunderstanding on the student's status with the team.

Violation was discovered when compliance began certifying students for the 2020-21 academic year and verified season of eligibility used for student-athletes.

Institutional Action: Student will not be eligible to compete in any rowing competition during the fall term of 2021-22. Once student regains eligibility, student will need to be reinstated by the institution and the IRA through the Student Athlete Reinstatement process, as aligned with NCAA standards.

Compliance and the men's rowing staff created a more streamlined process for roster management; this process will be communicated with the academic center. The academic certification process has been adjusted with the University with the changing academic standards. Rules education will be provided to the rowing staff.

Additional Steps: The student-athlete will need to go through reinstatement upon regaining eligibility. This will occur after the Fall 2021 semester.

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Secondary Violation – Time Period for Telephone Calls

Case Number: 2021-05

Decision Date: June 30, 2021

Applicable Bylaws: IRA Bylaws: Article I, Section A. Time Period for Telephone Calls – General Rule.

Facts of the Case: Men’s Rowing Coach initiated a phone call with PSA on June 28th (prior to the July 1st permissible date) that lasted 45 minutes. Self-reported to the compliance staff by Head Coach. The impermissible phone call was also flagged in our compliance software system (ARMS).

Institutional Action: No communication/contact with the PSA for a period of two weeks and rules education pertaining to recruiting with the men's rowing staff.

Additional Steps: None. Committee accepts the institution’s self-imposed actions based on precedence.