



Legislative Issue Form

Date: 18 January 2008

Submitted by: TJ Meagher – Legislative Representative

Proposed change: “Matriculation Time Limit”

To maintain a level playing field among collegiate athletics participants in the sport of women’s volleyball as specified

After the high school graduation date of the student-athlete's class (as determined by the first year of high school enrollment or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility), a student-athlete shall have one year in order to be immediately eligible and retain the opportunity for four seasons of competition upon initial, full-time collegiate enrollment. Graduation from high school or secondary school shall be based on the student-athlete's prescribed educational path in his or her country. The student also must meet all applicable NCAA, institutional and conference eligibility requirements. A student who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student during that one-year time period shall be subject to the following: *(Adopted: 1/9/96 effective 8/1/97 for those student-athletes first entering a collegiate institution on or after 8/1/97; Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04 for competition occurring on or after 8/1/04)*

(a) The student-athlete shall be charged with a season of intercollegiate volleyball eligibility for each calendar year after the one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one calendar year has elapsed) and prior to full-time collegiate enrollment during which the student-athlete has participated in organized tennis, swimming & diving or volleyball events per Bylaw 14.2.3.5.3. *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04 for competition occurring on or after 8/1/04)*

(b) After the one-year time period, if the student-athlete has engaged in organized tennis, swimming & diving, or volleyball events per Bylaw 14.2.3.5.3, upon matriculation at the certifying institution, the student-athlete must fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the institution in volleyball. *(Revised: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04 for competition occurring on or after 8/1/04)*

Applicable NCAA Bylaw: 14.2.3.2 Tennis and Swimming & Diving

Rationale for change:

The current NCAA regulation involving participation in organized athletics competition does not take effect until the prospect turns the age of 21. Therefore a prospect has the opportunity to train and compete for an additional three to four years before entering college. This situation has proliferated with the popularity adding international talent to collegiate rosters. Restricting the time frame maintains the experience level of incoming college student-athletes to be of comparable levels.

Rationale against change:

None expressed at this time.

Financial Implications: Minimal

Student Athlete Welfare Issues:

There is a significant benefit to limiting the amount of experience a prospect may obtain prior to beginning her collegiate career.

How does this align with other sports (or other NCAA divisions)?

Currently, the rule is in effect for tennis and swimming/diving – two sports where international participation is very popular

What other conferences support this proposed change?

AVCA Recruiting Task Force & Big Ten Conference

Operating Code Steps:



Step One: This form completed (Legislative Issue Form) and sent to HCC Chairperson. HCC Chairperson will pass along information to HCC reps.

Date completed and sent to HCC Chairperson: February 1

Date HCC Chair sent to HCC reps: February 6



Step Two: HCC reps send rationale (for or against) collected from conference coaches to the AVCA Office (todd.hamilton@avca.org) This rationale will then be posted on the AVCA website and emailed to HCC Reps to be dispersed back to coaches for education and lobbying purposes.

This rationale should be sent by February 18th.



Step Three: HCC reps email PRELIMINARY votes (taken within their conference via email) to Todd at the AVCA office. A form will be provided to submit these votes. Remember, it is ONE VOTE PER SCHOOL for each Legislative Issues (majority is required to move forward)

Votes must be emailed to Todd by February 29th.



Step Five: 30 day comment period from Feb. 29th – March 28th . There can also be lobbying among coaches to help educate why schools voted the way they did.



Step Six: HCC reps email FINAL votes (taken within their conference via email) to Todd at the AVCA office. A form will be provided to submit these votes Remember, it is ONE VOTE PER SCHOOL for each Legislative Issues (2/3 vote in favor is needed for any action to take place on behalf of AVCA membership). Votes must be email to Todd by March 28th.

Date sent to Legislative Representative and Executive Director:

Date sent to appropriate individuals:

NOTES: