



**Welcome to the
AMCC!**

About the AMCC

HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION



About the AMCC

- **Founded in 1997**
- **Ten member institutions in 4 states**

**Western PA: La Roche, Mount Aloysius,
Penn St. Behrend, Penn St. Altoona,
Pitt-Greensburg, Pitt-Bradford**

Western NY: Hilbert, Medaille

Western MD: Frostburg St.

Eastern OH: Franciscan

About the AMCC

Expansion

2008-09: Franciscan University

**2009-10: D'Youville College (WNY)
(11 members total)**

About the AMCC

Organization

- Presidents Council
- Athletic Directors Council and sub groups (coaches, SIDs, ATCs, FARs, SAAC)
- Commissioner (hired 2002)

About the AMCC

Presidents Council

- Presidentially-run conference
- Focus primarily on policy, budget, membership
- Meet twice a year (conference call in Dec., in-person in May)

About the AMCC

Athletic Directors Council

- Make recommendations to the Presidents Council
- Focus on day-to-day operations (sport codes, awards, championships)
- Meet four times a year

About the AMCC

SUB-GROUPS

- **Coaches:** Required to meet after each season, either in person or via conference call; make recommendations to the ADs
- **SIDs:** Meet via conference call in August; make recommendations to the ADs
- **Head Athletic Trainers:** Meet via conference call or in-person in May; make recommendations to the ADs; file medical hardship waivers

About the AMCC

Faculty Athletic Reps (FARs)

- Meet in person or via conference call every May
- Select the AMCC male and female scholar-athlete award winners
- Make recommendations on academic policy to the ADs and Presidents
- Who is your FAR?

About the AMCC

Conference SAAC

- Required by the NCAA
- Meet in-person in Nov. and periodically via conference call the rest of the year
- Make recommendations on matters of student-athlete welfare to the ADs and Presidents
- Advised by the commissioner

About the AMCC

Commissioner

- Chief administrative officer of the conference
- Reports to the Presidents Council
- Responsible for budget, meetings, compliance, awards, schedules, sports information, Review Board

About the AMCC

Review Board

- Consists of the commissioner and 2 other ADs (chosen depending on the circumstance)
- Act on matters of Code of Conduct violations (e.g., ejections, fighting, cheating, other inappropriate behavior)
- Allows institution to make recommendation on penalty; may accept or reject

About the AMCC

Code of Conduct

- Found in the Constitution and Bylaws
- Covers behavior at contests by coaches, team members and spectators; relations between member institutions; and the media
- Recommend reviewing with coaches and student-athletes annually

About the AMCC

AMCC Ejection Policy

- Mandatory one game/next game suspension for student-athletes and/or coaches if ejected from a contest
- Subject to automatic Review Board review
- Must be reported to conference office within 24 hours

About the AMCC

Fan Sportsmanship Initiative

Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive!

- Cheer for your team, not against the visitors
- Don't get personal in your comments about players, coaches or officials
- Give teams and officials their "space"
- No profanity, vulgarity, racist or sexist comments

About the AMCC

Sports and Championships

- 15 sport championships: baseball, M&W basketball, M&W cross country, M golf, M&W soccer, softball, M&W swimming/diving, M&W tennis, M/W volleyball
- Minimum of 4 institutions required to sponsor a sport before it can be a championship

About the AMCC

Sports and Championships

- Governed by sport codes and NCAA rules
- Conference sport codes can be stricter than NCAA rules
- Conference tournament determines recipient of NCAA automatic bids
- Must be full active member of the NCAA to participate in conference tournament (exceptions: golf, cross country)

About the AMCC

Sports and Championships

- All members eligible for regular season title
- All members eligible for awards (e.g., all-conference teams, player of the week recognition, all-sportsmanship team, academic all-conference team, etc.)

About the AMCC

Sports and Championships

- Team sport scheduling is done by the conference office on a two-year cycle
- Contest dates may not be changed unless petitioned to the commissioner (must be extraordinary circumstances)
- Game/match times may be changed if both schools agree; other default time prevails

About the AMCC

- All of this can be found in detail (z-z-z-z) in the AMCC Policies and Procedures Manual
- The manual also includes every sport code, emailed to every coach prior to the start of each season
- No excuses!

About the AMCC

QUESTIONS?

About the NCAA

- Division III rules and philosophy govern and guide the conference
- Emphasis on the experience and welfare of the student-athlete
- Commissioner is the conference's primary liaison to the NCAA

About the NCAA

WE

are the

NCAA!!!

About the NCAA

Legislative structure (hierarchy)

- NCAA Executive Committee (all 3 divisions represented)
- Division III Presidents Council
- Division III Management Council
- Committees
- Supported by NCAA staff

About the NCAA

Committee Service

- Can self-nominate or someone can nominate you
- Self-nominate via the NCAA website (www.ncaa.org)
- Selections guided by legislated criteria (e.g., geographic region, coach/administrator, male/female)

About the NCAA

RULES:

Know them,

Follow them!

About the NCAA

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY:

1. Do you have an NCAA manual?
2. Do you have an NCAA sport rule book?

If not, do you know where to get them?

About the NCAA

- In Division III, **administrative (i.e., non-sport specific) rules** are proposed by governing bodies as well as by institutions and conferences
- Voted on at the NCAA Convention (mid-January)—one school, one vote!
- In all divisions, **sport-specific rules** are proposed by rules committees, with input from coaches, ADs, commissioners
- Must be approved by PROP

About the NCAA

➤ NCAA RULES TEST

- Must take annually (before Sept. 15)
- Open book
- Hard copies of manual and sport rules book sent to each department every year
- Also available online (www.ncaa.org)

About the NCAA

RULES OVERVIEW

(wake up!)

About the NCAA

Amateurism (Bylaw 12)

- May not have take “pay for play” with an outside team
- Certain “actual and necessary” expense reimbursement is permitted (see Bylaw 12.02.4)
- Important to verify previous local club participation by international student-athletes

About the NCAA

Amateurism (Bylaw 12)

- Fundraising: All funds raised by student-athletes may go into a team “pot” OR be tracked by individual fundraising efforts in limited cases.
- S-A cannot accept or solicit direct contributions from someone other than a parent or guardian.
- If this happens, it is a violation of the amateurism rule.

About the NCAA

Recruitment (Bylaw 13)

- NCAA rules apply to all students in grades 9-12
- May not have face-to-face contact with a recruit **off-campus** until they have completed 11th grade
- Unlike Div. I and II, there are no “blackout dates” in Div. III—may recruit year-round
- Also prohibited (effective Aug. 1, 2008):
texting, IM-ing, contact via social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, etc.)

About the NCAA

Recruitment (Bylaw 13)

- **Unofficial visit** is when the PSA pays for the visit; unlimited number of unofficial visits OK at any time
 - OK to allow a meal in cafeteria and overnight stay in residence hall on unofficial visit as long as same privilege given to all prospective students
- **Official visit** is when the institution pays some or all travel expenses; limited to one per PSA; not permitted until completion of junior year

About the NCAA

Recruitment (Bylaw 13)

- May not contact a student enrolled in another 4 year college about transfer unless S-A has filed a self release (Div. III transfers only) **OR** permission has been granted by their current institution
- AMCC transfer form
- What do you do if a player from another school contacts you?

About the NCAA

Recruitment (Bylaw 13)

- Try-outs for PSAs prohibited
- OK for PSA to participate in pick-up games or informal activities (e.g., run) with current student-athletes during a visit as long as there is **no coach involvement**

About the NCAA

Admission/Enrollment (Bylaws 14 & 15)

- Student-athletes are to be admitted according to the same standards as other students
- No athletically-related financial aid permitted
- Involvement by Athletic Dept. Staff in the financial aid process is prohibited

About the NCAA

Eligibility (Bylaw 14)

- Student-athletes must carry a full-time load of credits (min. 12), must be in good academic standing, and make normal progress toward a degree to practice or compete
- Proof of health insurance also required

About the NCAA

Eligibility (Bylaw 14)

- AMCC rule on good academic standing stricter than the NCAA
- To be eligible in the AMCC, must have a minimum 2.0 GPA beginning with the sophomore year of eligibility
- Freshmen and first year transfers must comply with institutional standards of eligibility

About the NCAA

Seasons of Participation (Bylaw 14)

- Every student-athlete has 10 full-time semesters to complete 4 seasons of participation (no “clock” like Div. I)
- Use a season of participation when you practice past the first date of regular season competition in the traditional season or the date of competition in the non-traditional season

About the NCAA

Seasons of Participation (Bylaw 14)

Exceptions:

- Medical Hardship Waiver (medically documented season-ending injury or illness must occur in first half of season, 1/3 or fewer contests); administered by the conference
- Extenuating Personal Circumstances (e.g., death in the family, financial hardship); administered by the NCAA

About the NCAA

Transfer Eligibility (Bylaw 14)

Must put in a year of academic residence before competing unless:

- Never participated at previous institution
- Participated but left in good academic standing
- Served 2 years of non-participation

About the NCAA

Graduate Student Eligibility (Bylaw 14)

- Graduate students are not transfers!!
- Must have been an undergraduate at that **same** institution
- Must have remaining eligibility (i.e., must have completed fewer than 10 F-T semesters and fewer than 4 sport seasons in a particular sport)
- Waiver possible in very limited situations

About the NCAA

Male Practice Players (Bylaw 14)

- Same eligibility rules apply to male practice players for female teams (academic standards, full-time status, etc.) in team sports (no limitation for individual sports)
- Must be listed on NCAA roster
- Limited to practice one day a week; # of MPP limited to 50% of starting squad (e.g., basketball starts 5 players, can have 3 MPP)

About the NCAA

Sports Gambling (Bylaw 10)

- Prohibited for all sports (amateur and professional) in which the NCAA hosts a championship
- Includes fantasy leagues where there is a “pay in” or “pay out”
- Penalty is one year ban from participation if bet on another team, permanent ban if bet on your team
- Div. III male student-athletes are the largest population of college S-A gamblers

About the NCAA

Playing Seasons (Bylaw 17)

- Fall sports limited to 18 weeks, winter and spring sports limited to 19 weeks
- Count weeks carefully!!
- Fall and spring divided into traditional and non-traditional seasons (max. 5 weeks in the non-traditional)
- Minimum and maximum # of contests per sport; individual sports have participant minimums as well
- Required one day off in each 7 day period

About the NCAA

Playing Seasons (Bylaw 17)

- Coach's involvement in athletically-related activity limited to the 18/19 weeks (see 17.02.1.1 for list)
- May not compete with, coach, officiate or organize athletically-related activities involving your own student athletes outside of the playing season (but it is permissible to compete ***against***)

About the NCAA

Playing Seasons (Bylaw 17)

- Student-athletes may not compete on an outside team during their playing season (e.g., local club team)
- OK to participate on an outside team in the summer or between the traditional and non-traditional season with other team members—NO COACHES!!

About the NCAA

Awards and Benefits (Bylaw 16)

- General prohibition: May not receive awards or benefits not provided to the general student body
- Applies to booster groups as well as staff

About the NCAA

Rules Questions

- Start with your institution's compliance officer (who is it?)
- If they can't answer, ask the commissioner
- If commissioner unable to answer, will consult with NCAA conference contact
- Always get answers in writing!

About the NCAA

Rules Violations

- Must be reported to the conference office
- Most are secondary, with proscribed penalties
- Major violations addressed by Committee on Infractions

About the NCAA

Eligibility Reinstatement

- Must be filed through the conference office
- Addressed by the NCAA Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement

About the NCAA

QUESTIONS?