

BYLAW 1

Student-Athlete Eligibility

A student who has been admitted to attend any California community college shall be eligible to participate in the college athletic program, provided the student-athlete is eligible under all other provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws. *(Revised 7/16/15 effective 7/16/15)*

1.1 AMATEURISM

- 1.1.1 An amateur athlete is one who engages in a particular sport for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits derived there from, and to whom participation in that sport is an avocation.
- 1.1.2 An amateur athlete may be involved in professional sports activities under the following conditions:
 - A. An athlete may be a professional in one (1) sport and an amateur in all other sports but shall be ineligible only in that sport in which the athlete has been deemed to be a professional. Professional athletes who have their amateur status restored shall still be considered professionals in that sport according to this Constitution and Bylaws.
 - B. Athletes shall be eligible if they have, prior to enrollment and attendance in a collegiate institution, tried out at their own expense with a professional sports organization or received not more than one (1) expense-paid visit— provided the visit did not exceed 48 hours.
 - C. A student-athlete shall not try out for a professional team while participating in a California community college season of sport.
 - D. An athlete may participate as an individual or as a member of a team against professional athletes as long as all other sections of the Constitution and Bylaws are observed.
 - E. An athlete may participate in a sport competition with individuals who are competing for cash or comparable prizes provided the athlete does not receive payment for participation.
 - F. Athletes who compete against professional teams or individuals may receive reimbursement for their actual cost of food, lodging, and transportation as verified in writing by the event sponsors.
 - G. Attending a school or a clinic sponsored by a professional organization is not interpreted as “trying out” or “playing” for a team, provided no scheduled games are played.

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- H. Athletes may officiate and/or teach as a part of private or public instructional programs.
- 1.1.3 Students shall not represent a college in any athletic competition unless they are an amateur athlete in the sport(s) in which they compete. Students shall be deemed professional and ineligible to participate in that sport if any one (1) of the following exists—If the student:
- A. Takes or has taken pay in any form for sport participation.
 - B. Has signed an agreement of any kind to compete in a professional sport.
 - C. Has been paid for his/her athletic participation. (Exception: Athletes who compete against professional teams or individuals may receive reimbursement for their actual cost of food, lodging, and transportation as verified in writing by the event sponsors)
 - D. Has ever played on a professional team, unless the student meets the criteria as listed in Bylaw 1.1.2.
 - E. Is an international student and has his/her educational costs partially or fully paid by the student's national sport body or sport club. *(Revised 8/26/18 effective 9/1/21)*
- 1.1.4 A prospect may allow a scouting service or agent to distribute personal information (e.g., high-school academic and athletic records, physical statistics), to member institutions without jeopardizing his or her eligibility, provided the fee paid to such an agent is not based on placing the prospect in a collegiate institution as a recipient of institutional financial aid. *(Adopted 3/29/18 effective 7/1/18) (Revised 8/26/18 effective 9/1/21)*
- 1.1.5 Full-time enrolled student-athletes cannot be paid by a community college to coach while eligible to compete in that community college sport. *(Revised 8/26/21 effective 9/1/21)*
- 1.1.6 Individuals may be compensated for name, image, and likeness activities, including those related to athletic reputation (NIL) as permitted by California state law and consistent with the Bylaws contained in this section. *(Adopted 8/26/21 effective 9/1/21)*
- A. Institutions are prohibited from providing a prospective or current student-athlete with compensation in relation to the student-athlete's name, image, likeness, or athletic reputation (NIL).
 - B. Institutions may prohibit student-athlete NIL activity if such activity is in conflict with a provision of existing institutional agreements.
 - C. Student-athletes are required to disclose compensated NIL agreements/activity to their institution's athletic director no later than 72 hours of the agreement or activity occurring. Student-athletes are encouraged to disclose,
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where possible, such agreements prior to entering into them.

D. Student-athletes may:

1. Use institutional marks with institutional approval as allowed by the institution.
2. Identify themselves as a student-athlete at their respective institution in NIL activities as allowed by the institutions.
3. Sell their personal team-related merchandise (equipment/apparel/shoes) provided to them by their institution, if such merchandise is normally retained by the student-athlete and not to be reused by the institution.
4. Use institutional facilities subject to all applicable institutional processes for facility usage or rentals.
5. Participate in crowdfunding and/ or fundraising activities for the purpose of financing their own business; raising money for a nonprofit or charitable entity; or under extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control for necessary educational and personal expenses, or family emergencies.
6. Hire professional service providers to advise and represent student-athletes in developing and managing NIL opportunities.

E. Student-athletes may not:

1. Receive compensation, either in-kind or monetarily, for engaging in the following NIL activities:
 - a. Compensation in exchange for a student-athlete or prospective student-athlete's participation, performance, or awards.
 - b. Compensation in exchange for a student-athlete's decision to attend the institution.
 - c. Compensation for work not performed.
2. Hire agents or other professional service providers for the purpose of securing a professional sport contract or opportunity.

F. Institutions may:

1. Prohibit student-athletes from wearing official team uniforms and apparel in the student-athlete's NIL promotional activities.
2. Prohibit student-athletes from using institutional marks; any institution/ district produced content including but not limited to, graphics, videos,

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and photos; and any copied or original content, including video or photos taken by cell phones, video cameras, or other devices at live athletic events in the student-athlete's NIL promotional activities, without prior, express written consent from the institution/district and/or third-party media rights holder.

3. Prohibit student-athletes from engaging in NIL activities during official team activities (games, practices, etc.).
4. Provide educational programming to help current student-athletes with NIL rules compliance; reporting of NIL activities; and vetting of professional service providers.

G. Institutions may not:

1. Provide direct institutional involvement in the development, operation, promotion, or facilitation of current or prospective student-athlete NIL promotional arrangements, agreements or activities.
2. Permit any individual employed by, retained by, or serving in a volunteer capacity from arranging for, or serving as, a professional service provider for a current or prospective student-athlete; and institutions and institutional employees should only be permitted to assist in the vetting of professional service providers.

1.2 ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY *(Adopted & effective 7/16/15)*

In order to be eligible to compete while representing a CCCAA member institution, student-athletes must maintain their athletic eligibility at all times. Students will be deemed athletically ineligible upon completion of their 2nd season of sport specific competition. They may also be deemed athletically ineligible for providing incomplete or false information during the eligibility process, receiving impermissible benefits, committing violations of amateurism policies and any other provision of the CCCAA Constitution and Bylaws not covered under Bylaw 1.3. In addition there may be California State and/or institutional specific policies that may render a student-athlete athletically ineligible.

1.3 ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY *(Adopted 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15)*

- 1.3.1 In order to be eligible for intercollegiate competition, a student-athlete must be continuously and actively enrolled and attending class in a minimum of 12 units at his/her California community college during the season of sport. Students dropping below 12 units are not eligible for competition until they are once again actively enrolled and attending class in at least 12 units. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
 - A. If the season of sport spans two (2) semesters or quarters, a student-athlete who did not reestablish eligibility or who dropped below 12 units at the end of the first semester or quarter cannot become eligible until the second semester or quarter has begun (first day of instruction) and the student is actively

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enrolled in at least 12 units. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*

- B. Of the 12 units, at least 9 shall be attempted in courses counting toward remediation, career technical education/certificate courses, associate degree requirements, transfer/general education, and/or lower division theoretical major preparation courses as defined by the college catalog and/or articulation agreements and be consistent with the student-athlete's educational plan. *(Adopted 4/4/08 effective 7/1/08)*
- C. Mini-course (less than semester/quarter in length) units shall be counted if the student is enrolled and attending classes or has completed the mini-course during the semester or quarter of the season of sport. Mini-course units in which the student expects to enroll and attend shall not be counted for purposes of athletic eligibility.
- D. Units from a course repeated to raise a grade of "D" or better may be used to satisfy Bylaw 1.3.1.
- E. A student must be registered, enrolled, and attending class no later than four (4) weeks after the first day of class instruction in order to represent that California community college in athletic competition during that season.
- F. For eligibility purposes (with the exception of the transfer rule), multi-college district students may count units from any of the colleges within that district.

1.3.2 In order to be eligible for competition at a California community college, the college administrative representative shall certify that the student-athlete has an abbreviated and/or comprehensive individual educational plan on file, by the following dates: *(Adopted 3/31/11 effective 7/1/11) (Revised 3/31/16 effective 7/1/16)*

- A. October 15 (of the given year) for those student-athletes whose first competition, in any sport, occurs during the fall academic term.
- B. March 1 (of the given year) for those student-athletes whose first competition, in any sport, occurs during the spring academic term.

1.3.3 In order to remain eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition a student-athlete has to successfully complete at least 6 units (semester or quarter) during the preceding academic term in which the student is enrolled as a full-time student at the certifying institution and must present a cumulative 2.0 GPA. The GPA calculation begins with and includes the units taken during the first semester/quarter of competition. Institutional verification for eligibility for continuing competition will be completed within one week of the posting of grades for the academic term by the institution. See Bylaw 1.3.1 for enrollment requirements during the season of competition. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 6/19/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*

- A. If a student-athlete fails to meet the 6 units and/or 2.0 cumulative GPA requirement after the fall term, the student-athlete may use intersession courses from any accredited institution which are accepted by the certifying

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institution to make up the deficiency. *(Adopted 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*

- B. Student-athletes will not be eligible for the next term of competition until the intersession grades have been posted and their eligibility has been certified.

(Adopted 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)

1.4 ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION

1.4.1 Conferences shall require each college to certify athletic eligibility as follows:

- A. Submitting a Form 1—Student Eligibility Report, for each student-athlete listed on the Form 3, to the conference commissioner's office postmarked or emailed, prior to the first game, meet, or match. *(Adopted & effective 11/2/12) (Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15)*
- B. Submitting a Form 3—Team Eligibility, electronically via the CCCAA website for each team, prior to the first game, meet, or match. Addendums to Form 3 may be submitted electronically at a later date, but the student-athletes listed on the addendums are not eligible until the Form 3 has been updated. *(Adopted & effective 11/2/12) (Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15)*

1.4.2 Colleges are required to verify weekly that all student-athletes participating in CCCAA-sanctioned sports are in compliance with Bylaw 1.3.1. *(Adopted 4/3/09 effective 7/1/09)*

- A. Weekly verification shall occur for all sports between Monday at 6:00 am and Tuesday at 12:00 pm of each week during the season of sport.
- B. For those student-athletes not meeting the tenets of Bylaw 1.3.1, as discovered on the weekly verification day, the institution must determine if they participated in a contest(s)/date(s), while under the required unit standards.
- C. Student-athletes who did not participate in a contest(s)/date(s), are ineligible to participate further until they once again meet the unit standards.
- D. For the student-athlete(s) who did participate in a contest(s)/date(s) while under the required unit limits, the following penalty shall be assessed: The student-athlete(s) will be declared ineligible for at least as many contest(s)/date(s) as he/she participated in while under the required unit standards. At minimum, the student-athlete(s) will be declared ineligible until the day of the following weekly verification check (i.e., for a seven [7]-day period).
- E. Participation by a student-athlete who fell below the unit standards after the weekly check date, but prior to the following weekly check date, will incur no team penalty (i.e., no team forfeiture will be assessed).
- F. Errors in reporting eligibility status may be corrected prior to the next weekly check date and any student-athletes affected will be immediately eligible.

1.4.3 Within ten (10) working days after the end of the competitive season, colleges

shall submit the final Form 3 to the conference commissioner via the CCCAA website indicating which students competed in a game, meet, or match. *(Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15)*

1.5 SEASON OF COMPETITION

- 1.5.1 Playing in a scheduled game, meet, or match shall be recorded as a season of competition, even if the student competed in a non-scoring position (i.e., the number 8 golfer). For student-athletes competing on behalf of the college in any game, meet, or match during a season, that shall be recorded as a season of competition in that sport. Student-athletes who practice but do not compete at any non-CCCAA institution, will not be considered as having used a season of competition. *(Adopted & effective 11/8/19)*
- 1.5.2 When the start of a college's semester or quarter is after the starting date for a sport, the college will certify all athletes eligible and able to compete in the sport. The athletes must be registered in 12 units even though they cannot attend the classes until the college starting date. The athletes must meet all other eligibility rules.
- 1.5.3 When a sport season spans two (2) semesters or quarters, continuing students who meet the requirements of Bylaw 1.3.1 may compete until the next new semester or quarter has begun.
- 1.5.4 A student-athlete, regardless of whether a member of a varsity, junior varsity, reserve team, or any combination thereof, may not participate in more than the number of games, meets, or matches as authorized for a sport as listed in Bylaw 3.

1.6 ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTINUING COMPETITION

- 1.6.1 Once a student competes in any scheduled game, meet, or match; as defined in Bylaw 1.15.8, the student must present the following to be eligible for the second season of that sport **(See section D if the student-athlete fails to meet A, B or C).** *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17) (Revised & effective 8/31/17)*
- A. 24-semester/36-quarter units. These units must be successfully completed at accredited postsecondary institutions and prior to the beginning of the semester/quarter of the second season of sport. The unit count begins with and includes the units taken during the first semester/quarter of competition for that sport. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- B. At least 6 units (semester or quarter) successfully completed during the preceding academic term in which the student is enrolled as a full-time student. See Bylaw 1.3.1 for enrollment requirements during the season of competition. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17) (Revised & effective 6/27/17)*

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- C. A cumulative 2.0 GPA. The GPA calculation begins with the units taken during their first semester/quarter of competition in that sport and includes course work completed for credit at accredited postsecondary institutions. This grade point average must include all courses taken since the start of the term of the first competition in any CCCAA-sanctioned sport, with the exception of course work where substandard grades (D, F) were forgiven through course repetition or academic renewal per regulations of Title V. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- D. See below if the student-athlete fails to meet the above requirements prior to the beginning of the semester/quarter of the second season of sport. *(Revised & effective 8/31/17)*
1. If a student-athlete fails to meet the 24-semester/36-quarter unit requirement prior to the beginning of the term of their second season of sport, he or she becomes academically ineligible. The student-athlete may use intersession or summer session courses from any accredited institution, which are accepted by the certifying institution, to meet this requirement. *(Adopted & effective 6/27/17)*
 2. If a student-athlete fails to meet the 6 unit requirement after the term of competition, he or she becomes academically ineligible. The student-athlete may use intersession or summer session courses from any accredited institution, which are accepted by the certifying institution, to make up the deficiency. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17) (Revised & effective 8/31/17)*
 3. If a student-athlete fails to meet the 2.0 cumulative GPA requirement after the term of competition, he or she becomes academically ineligible. The student-athlete may use intersession or summer session courses from any accredited institution, which are accepted by the certifying institution, to make up the deficiency. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17) (Revised & effective 8/31/17)*

Student-athletes will not be eligible for the next term of competition until the intersession or summer session grades (even if the classes are not completed before the start of the semester/quarter of the season of sport) have been posted and their eligibility has been certified. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17) (Revised & effective 6/27/17)*

- 1.6.1.2 Of the 24-semester/36-quarter units to be completed, 18-semester/27-quarter units shall be in course work counting toward remediation, career technical education/certificate courses, associate degree requirements, transfer/general education, and/or lower division theoretical major preparation courses as defined by the college catalog and/or articulation agreements and be consistent with the student-athlete's educational plan. *(Adopted 4/4/08 effective 7/1/08) (Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15)*
- 1.6.1.3 Units from a course repeated to raise a grade of "D" or better shall not be counted to satisfy the 24-semester/36-quarter unit requirement for second season of sport eligibility. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15)*

- 1.6.1.4 Incomplete grades are part of the academic work of that semester/quarter. The units may not be used for eligibility purposes until the course work is made up and the grade is officially changed and recorded to be above an "F."
- 1.6.2 In order to continue athletic competition in the same CCCAA-sanctioned sport or to begin competition in a different CCCAA-sanctioned sport after previously participating in another CCCAA-sanctioned sport, the student-athlete shall meet the requirements of 1.6.1 as applicable. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- 1.6.3 In sports which go over two (2) terms at a semester institution or at a quarter school, in order for a student to be eligible for the second term the student must meet the requirements of 1.6.1.B from the preceding semester/quarter and 1.6.1.C. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15) (Adopted & effective 11/6/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- 1.6.4 In order to use course units for eligibility purposes, the student-athlete's name shall be registered and recorded on the official class roster for that course prior to the end of the course.
- 1.6.5 Units earned in an intersession (or summer) offered outside of the 175-day academic calendar may be used to meet academic requirements, provided they are completed prior to the start of the semester/quarter of that sport season. (See Bylaws 1.6.1, 1.6.2, and 1.10) *(Adopted 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- A. Intersession units may be used to rectify a deficiency for a student-athlete who competes in a sport that goes over two (2) terms even if intersession ends after the second term has started. However, student-athletes will not be eligible for the second term of competition until the intersession grades have been posted and their eligibility has been certified. *(Adopted 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- 1.6.6 A student who wishes to compete in a second season of participation and fails to meet the academic eligibility requirements at the beginning of the first term of that season of sport may regain his/her eligibility for that second season of sport if:
- A. The requirements for continued participation (Bylaw 1.6) have been met at the conclusion of the term that begins the season of sport. Only the units attempted in the previous two semesters/three quarters shall be used to determine continuing eligibility. *(Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*
- B. In addition to 1.6.6.A, the student-athlete may use summer school units from their college or from another California Community College or an accredited institution to apply towards fall eligibility. *(Adopted 3/31/17 effective 7/1/17)*
1. The student-athlete will not be eligible for fall competition until they meet the eligibility requirements of Bylaws 1.3 and 1.6.
- C. Units taken during a summer or winter session may be included if those units fall within the previous two semesters/three quarters. The student shall be immediately eligible to compete upon completion of the requirements

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identified in Bylaw 1.4.1 A and B. *(Adopted 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised & effective 2/11/16) (Revised 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*

1.7 NUMBER OF SEASONS OF COMPETITION

No athlete shall be allowed more than two (2) seasons of collegiate competition in any one sport.

1.8 ILLNESS OR INJURY

1.8.1 A student-athlete may have a year of collegiate competition reinstated for reasons of medical hardship. Medical hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from injury or illness that has occurred under certain specific conditions. A Form 4, Injury/Illness Waiver Request, is filed with the conference commissioner of the conference in which the injury or illness occurred. The conference commissioner may approve the waiver based on the following criteria: *(Adopted & effective 10/17/08)*

- A. There must have been an incapacitating injury or illness that caused the athlete to become unable to complete the season. It is not necessary for the injury or illness to be the direct result of the institution's practice or game competition.
- B. The incapacitating injury or illness must be specifically defined and validated by the licensed physician who treated the athlete at the time of the injury or illness, and the supporting documentation must be contemporaneous and completed at the time of the diagnosis and/or treatment of the injury or illness. Statements written subsequent to or not from the treating medical personnel will not be acceptable. *(Adopted & effective 10/17/08)*
- C. The injury or illness must have occurred prior to the beginning of the contest or date of competition that begins the second half of the playing season in that sport as measured by the number of completed contests or dates of competition in that sport, excluding postconference competition. The institution's sport schedule must accompany the Form 4. For each tournament on the schedule, the institution must indicate how many contests were played. The institution must also indicate any scheduled contests or dates of competition that did not occur. *(Adopted & effective 11/2/12)*

An athlete who is injured in the first half of the season, attempts to return in the second half, and is unable to compete further as a result of aggravating the original injury does not qualify for the injury/illness waiver.

- D. The injury or illness must have occurred before the student participated in more than 30 percent (20% if it occurred before July 1, 2016) of the institution's completed contests in that sport, or competition dates, but it is not permissible to combine the two (2) methods of calculation, excluding postconference competition. The sport schedule that accompanies the Form 4 must indicate the contests in which the athlete competed. PC and/or bowl game contests shall not be counted in the injury/illness number of contests. *(Adopted & effective 11/2/12) (Revised 3/31/16 effective 7/1/16) (Revised & effective 6/28/16)*
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- E. The following are to be used in determining the percent calculation under these “medical hardship waiver” provisions:
1. Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of an event shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 30 percent of a 31-game basketball schedule, 9.3 games, shall be considered 10 games) (e.g., 20 percent of a 31-game basketball schedule, 6.2 games, shall be considered 7 games). *(Revised 3/31/16 effective 7/1/16) (Revised & effective 6/28/16)*
 2. The denominator shall be the institution’s completed contests in that sport, using the counting method outlined in Bylaw 1.8.1.D. *(Adopted & effective 6/19/14)*
- F. Participation in scrimmages shall not count as contests in the administration of the “medical hardship waiver.”
- G. Conference championship events shall be counted as one (1) contest in determining the institution’s completed events in that sport, regardless of the number of days or games involved.
- H. Tournaments and multiple-team events—For the purposes of the injury/illness waiver rule only, tournaments and multiple team versus team events will be counted as follows:
1. Individual sports: Any competition involving competitors from more than two (2) institutions, conducted and organized as one (1) event at one (1) location on one (1) calendar day; (e.g., triple-dual meet in wrestling, team invitation in track or swim meet) shall count as one (1) contest, even though team scores against all participating institutions are kept separately, or the athlete competes against more than one (1) opponent. *(Revised 10/27/20 effective 11/6/20)*
 2. In individual sports, each day of an individual’s competition in a tournament or meet shall count as one (1) contest.
 3. In team sports, an institution’s participation against another institution in each contest in a tournament, doubleheader, or multiple-team engagement shall count as one (1) contest; (e.g., a four (4)-game baseball tournament will count as four (4) contests, and three (3) games in a double-elimination basketball tournament will count as three (3) contests. *(Adopted & effective 11/1/13)*
- I. Reinstatement of season of sport:
1. The reinstatement of a season of sport shall be treated as if the partial season of competition never existed for athletic purposes.
 2. For academic purposes, if the reinstatement occurred in the first year of competition, that period will not affect eligibility. If the reinstatement is in the second year of competition, all rules of eligibility shall apply.
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1.8.2 Extenuating Circumstances

The criteria used when considering this type of appeal shall be those applied in Bylaw 1.8 (Injury/Illness). Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. The student-athlete failed to complete the entire season of competition at the institution as a result of a life-threatening injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family, that clearly is supported by contemporaneous medical documentation;
- B. The student-athlete failed to complete the entire season of competition at the institution as a result of extreme financial difficulties as a result of a specific event (e.g., layoff, death in family) experienced by the student-athlete or an individual upon whom the student-athlete is legally dependent and prohibited the student-athlete from participating in intercollegiate athletics. These circumstances must be clearly supported by objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination) and must be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the individual upon whom the student-athlete is legally dependent.

1.8.2.1 Review Authority: The extenuating circumstances waiver request shall follow the appeals process as outlined in Article 7 of the Constitution and Bylaws utilizing the above criteria. In cases where a student-athlete does not meet the extenuating circumstances listed, following and only after review by the conference, the CCCAA Appeals Board shall have authority to review based on additional documented extenuating circumstances. *(Adopted & effective 10/17/08)*

1.8.3 Eligibility Verification of Reporting Error

Appeals from otherwise eligible students supported by the college president in which a reporting error that results in ineligibility is allegedly involved. The conference commissioner may grant the waiver if all of the following conditions are met:

- A. The appeal must include an explanation in writing from the college president.
- B. A completed Form 4B must also be submitted.
- C. The athlete must satisfy all of the remaining eligibility requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws.

1.9 MULTI-COLLEGE DISTRICT COMPETITION

1.9.1 In a multi-college district, a student attending one (1) college may participate in a sport offered by another college in the same district, provided the student is enrolled in the course for that sport at the college of participation.

1.9.2 Once a student in a multi-college district has participated in any CCCAA-sanctioned

sport at one (1) college in a multi-college district, that student must meet the transfer rule in order to participate in sports at another campus if both colleges offer the same sport.

- 1.9.3 For eligibility purposes (with the exception of the transfer rule), multi-college district students may count units from any of the colleges in that district.
- 1.9.4 Multi-college district students shall be exempt from the transfer rule at a second college in the district (Bylaw 1.10.1) only for the sport(s) not offered at the college of previous participation.
- 1.9.5 Multi-college students shall not use units earned while participating at a second college in the district to satisfy the transfer rule.
- 1.9.6 In multi-college districts, college teams shall be identified by a college name.
- 1.9.7 The CCCAA Board may declare consenting contiguous California community college districts to have multi-college status in specified sports for the purposes of this section. This must be reviewed by the CCCAA Board on an annual basis.

1.10 TRANSFER

- 1.10.1 A student transferring to a California community college for athletic participation purposes whose last competition in CCCAA sanctioned intercollegiate athletics was at another California community college must successfully complete 12 units in residence prior to the beginning of the semester/quarter of competition for that college. (See Bylaw 1.5 for definition of “season of competition.”) Transfer status is determined by where the athlete last competed, not necessarily where the student last attended. *(Adopted & effective 10/4/11)*

A. The 12-unit residency rule shall be waived for all 2-4-2 transfer students that competed at a CCCAA institution, transferred to a four-year institution, and wish to return to a different CCCAA institution. Students must have enrolled full-time at a four-year institution and/or received athletic aid and practiced in their respective sport(s). All other eligibility requirements remain. *(Revised 10/27/20 effective 11/6/20) (Revised & effective 8/26/21)*

- 1.10.2 In addition to meeting the residence requirement of the transfer rule, the student-athlete must also satisfy applicable unit and grade point average requirements. If the student wishes to compete in a different CCCAA-sanctioned sport for the first time, he/she must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average in course work completed for credit at accredited postsecondary institutions. This grade point average must include all courses taken since the start of the term of the first competition in any CCCAA-sanctioned sport. If the competition is the second season of competition in that particular sport, then in addition to the grade point average requirements stated above, the student must also have completed 24-semester/36-quarter units since the start of the term of the first competition in that sport. *(Adopted & effective 6/10/10) (Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15)*

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- 1.10.3 Student-athletes who are participating in a sport shall not earn units at a second college to satisfy the transfer rule until that season of sport has ended or the academic semester/quarter ends at the college in which the student-athlete is enrolled, whichever comes first. *(Adopted 3/29/18 effective 7/1/18)*
- 1.10.4 A student-athlete who has competed at a California community college and who wishes to compete in a sport not offered by that community college/district must meet the requirements of the transfer rule. (Multi-campus district colleges: refer to Bylaw 1.9)
- 1.10.5 When satisfying the 12-unit residence transfer requirement, a maximum of eight (8) units may be from courses completed during the summer session(s) or winter intersession(s) immediately preceding the completion of the transfer.
- 1.10.6 If at least two (2) or more sport seasons have elapsed since last competing at a CCCAA institution, the 12-unit residency rule shall be waived. *(Adopted 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised & effective 11/6/15) (Revised & effective 11/4/16)*
- 1.10.7 A transfer student who has competed in a CCCAA-sanctioned sport at a four (4)-year institution or non-California community college before competing at a California community college is required to have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average as described in Bylaw 1.10.2. A student participating in a second season of a sport must also meet the required 24-semester/36-quarter unit rule, since the start of the term of the first competition in that sport as described in Bylaw 1.6.1 with the exception of sports that are played in consecutive seasons at the four (4)-year and the two (2)-year institutions. Students falling under this exception are required to have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average and have completed 12-semester/18-quarter units since the start of the term of their first competition with a minimum of six (6) semester or nine (9) quarter units being earned during that academic semester/quarter (fall/spring semester or fall/winter/spring quarter) of full-time enrollment prior to the second season of sport. *(Adopted 4/5/12 effective 7/1/12) (Revised & 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15) (Revised 2/12/15 effective 7/1/15) (Adopted 4/2/15 effective 7/1/15) (Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15) (Revised & effective 6/27/17)*
- 1.10.8 Football Only: All 4-2 transfer student-athletes who were not counted as using a season of competition according to NCAA Bylaw 12.8.3.1.6, which states "in football, a student-athlete may compete in up to four contests in a season without using a season of competition", shall be upheld and implemented by the CCCAA. *(Adopted 3/28/19 effective 7/1/19) (Revised 10/27/20 effective 11/6/20)*

1.11 PARTICIPATION BY GENDER *(Adopted 10/27/20 effective 11/6/20, Revised & effective 2/11/21)*

The CCCAA's commitment to equity and inclusion aligns with best practices and federal and state laws as they relate to competition. In order to provide for a fair and equitable opportunity to compete and succeed for all student-athletes, this Bylaw permits and encourages student-athletes to compete under the criteria below.

- A. Student-athletes may participate in sex-separated sports activities in accordance with their assigned birth gender as noted on their original birth certificate. Women may

compete on men's teams; however men may not compete on the women's team, except as noted below.

B. For student-athletes seeking opportunity to compete in sex-separated sport's activities on a team that's gender is inconsistent with the gender noted on the student-athlete's original birth certificate, the student-athlete must meet the standards as set forth below and as discussed in CCCAA Policies on the Inclusion of Transgender Student-Athletes, found on the Gender Equity page of the CCCAA website.

1. The following policies set forth the requirements for participation in sex-separated sports activities by transgender student-athletes undergoing hormonal treatment for gender transition. Once a student-athlete engages in hormonal treatment for gender transition, he or she may not return to his or her previous gender status for purposes of CCCAA competition:

a. A trans male (FTM: Female-to-Male) student-athlete who has begun or completed treatment with testosterone for diagnosed Gender Identity Disorder or gender dysphoria and/or Transsexualism, for purposes of CCCAA competition, may compete on a men's team and is no longer eligible to compete on a women's team. The student-athlete must declare his gender status to the college for which they will compete using the Certification Checklist (Appendix G) before the first practice of his season of sport. Certification of gender status is good only for one academic year and the student-athlete must receive certification of their gender status from the college in every year of athletic eligibility.

b. A trans female (MTF: Male-to-Female) student-athlete who has begun or completed treatment with testosterone suppression medication for Gender Identity Disorder or gender dysphoria and/or Transsexualism and has completed at least one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment, may compete on a women's team and is no longer eligible to compete on a men's team. The student-athlete must declare her gender status to the college for which they will compete using the Certification Checklist (Appendix G) before the first practice of her season of sport. Certification of gender status is good only for one academic year and the student-athlete must receive certification of their gender status from the college in every year of athletic eligibility.

2. The following sets forth the policies for participation of transgender student-athletes who have never begun hormonal treatment for gender transition:

a. Any transgender student-athlete who is not taking hormone treatment related to gender transition may participate in sex-separated sports activities in accordance with his or her assigned birth gender.

b. A trans male (FTM: Female-to-Male) student-athlete who is not taking testosterone related to gender transition may participate on a men's or women's team.

c. A trans female (MTF: Male-to-Female) transgender student-athlete who is not taking hormone treatments related to gender transition may compete

only on a men's team.

3. Students who do not wish to provide the documentation required by 1.11.B.1.a or 1.11.B.1.b above, may participate in sex-separated sports activities under the provisions of 1.11.B.2 above.

1.12 FREELANCE PARTICIPATION

Individual colleges requesting freelance competition in a sport may do so by satisfying all Constitution and Bylaws and present conference eligibility requirements and by receiving approval of both the conference and the CCCAA. Colleges freelancing in a team or individual sport shall not be eligible for conference or postconference competition. Colleges that freelance will remain members of their present conference.

1.13 CLUB TEAM PARTICIPATION

- 1.13.1 A club team is defined as a group of students who do not meet CCCAA eligibility and academic requirements and who, in an unrecognized manner, get together to take part in an activity by mutual agreement and are supervised by non-reimbursed faculty members.
- 1.13.2 A student competing as a member of a California community college club team which competes against a California community college intercollegiate sport team must meet all academic and eligibility requirements and shall use one (1) season of participation in that sport.
- 1.13.3 Guidelines for determining eligibility for university or non-California community college transfer students who have participated on a club team and request eligibility at a California community college are as follows:
 - A. The student received academic units for his/her competition.
 - B. There was a regular full-time staff person assigned to teach the sport activity for which he/she was given faculty load or pay as remuneration.
 - C. There was a regular printed and published schedule for the sport.
 - D. NCAA, CCCAA, etc. eligibility forms were filled out in order to participate.
 - E. Regular officials were used at the contests.
 - F. Admission was charged for fans to attend contests.
 - G. The students met eligibility standards in order to compete.
 - H. The student practiced regularly in a formal setting.
 - I. Number of games, meets, or matches held during the season constitutes a full season.

- J. Regular full-dress uniforms were worn during the activity.
- K. There was competition against intercollegiate athletic teams at post-secondary institutions.

1.13.4 If the club team falls into the above patterns, a season of sport has been used and all academic and eligibility requirements must be met in order to compete at a California community college.

1.14 JUNIOR VARSITY AND RESERVE TEAM PARTICIPATION

- 1.14.1 Members of California community college junior varsity and/or reserve teams must satisfy all eligibility requirements specified in this Constitution and Bylaws.
- 1.14.2 Junior varsity and/or reserve competition shall be counted as regular competition as it pertains to the eligibility of the student-athlete.
- 1.14.3 A student-athlete, regardless of whether a member of a varsity, junior varsity, or reserve team, or any combination thereof, may not participate in more than the number of games, meets, or matches as authorized for a sport (as listed in Bylaw 3.11).
- 1.14.4 Colleges that split or divide their varsity teams for separate contests shall have each contest count as part of the total CCCAA allowable number of contests. Exception: Track and Field. (See Bylaw 3.14.2)
- 1.14.5 Eligible team members who compete as non-scoring members of a team shall be assessed a season of sport.

1.15 COMPETITION/PARTICIPATION: INDIVIDUALS

- 1.15.1 In order for a student to be eligible to compete in a sport, he/she must meet Constitution and Bylaws academic eligibility requirements; i.e., have satisfied transfer residence if necessary, have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average if necessary, and have passed 24-semester/36-quarter units between seasons of competition before a second season of participation in the same sport. These requirements must be met prior to the beginning of the semester or quarter of the specific sport season. Students not enrolled during the first term of the sport; i.e., a basketball student-athlete not enrolled during the fall term may not compete during the winter quarter or the spring semester. *(Adopted 4/4/14 effective 7/1/15)*
(Adopted 6/12/15 effective 7/1/15)
- 1.15.2 A student-athlete becomes eligible for competition in a sport on the first day of instruction of the first semester or quarter of that sport season at his/her institution, except as provided under Bylaw 1.5.2.
- 1.15.3 A student who attends any intercollegiate athletic class that takes place during the traditional season of sport at any California community college is considered as attending that college for athletic purposes and is not eligible to compete at any other California community college during that season of sport. *(Revised 3/28/19)*

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effective 7/1/19)

- 1.15.4 A student-athlete may compete with only one (1) California community college in any season of sport regardless of the semester/quarter starting or ending date.
(Revised 3/28/19 effective 7/1/19)
- 1.15.5 A student may practice at a four (4)-year college or out-of-state junior/community college and transfer to a California community college without penalty, but the student-athlete may compete in a game, meet, or match at only one (1) post-secondary institution during the same season of sport with the following exception:
- A student who transfers to a California community college and who has competed in a CCCAA-sponsored sport which was considered to be part of a nontraditional or non-championship segment of the regular schedule for that sport is eligible to compete. The student may compete at a California community college in this sport during the same academic year, provided he/she would have been eligible for a regular season of competition at his/her previous institution. The total participation in this sport during the academic year would count as only one (1) season of competition.
- 1.15.6 For semester colleges, students attending California community college inter-collegiate athletic courses which are conducted in the same academic term but prior to the official starting date of that sport season shall, for the purposes of eligibility and transfer, be considered as having practiced at that college for that semester. *(Revised 3/28/19 effective 7/1/19)*
- 1.15.7 For quarter colleges, students attending California community college inter-collegiate classes, which are conducted during the same quarter or the immediately prior summer/winter quarter prior to the official start date for that sport season and continuing after the official start date shall, for the purposes of eligibility and transfer, be considered as having practiced for that season of sport.
(Revised 3/28/19 effective 7/1/19)
- 1.15.8 Actual playing in a scheduled game, meet, or match (except scrimmages) at any accredited institution above the high school level during the sport season shall be recorded as one (1) season of competition in that sport. (Exception: Bylaw 1.8)
- 1.15.9 A California community college student in a team sport may not compete with any other California community college teams or practice or compete with any other outside team in that sport during the CCCAA season of that sport as defined by the CCCAA Sports Season Dates Chart and the Nontraditional Sport Season Dates Chart. In exceptional cases, the CCCAA Executive may issue an exemption to this section. *(Revised & effective 8/26/21)*
- A. The penalty for violation of Bylaw 1.15.9 (participation on an outside team) will be administered against the student-athlete only. The first offense will be a two (2)-game suspension; the second offense will be removal from team. Suspension for traditional season violations to be served during traditional season only. Suspension for violations during non-traditional season (NTS) to

be during NTS only. *(Adopted 4/3/09 effective 7/1/09)*

1.15.10 An unattached competitor is an individual who is enrolled in and attending a California community college as a California community college student and is not listed on an official college team roster Form 3. Such individuals may not compete as a member of that college team or unattached in any game, meet, or match that appears on their college's official team's schedule. Such student-athletes are ineligible and all contests in which they compete are forfeited. Once a student competes as unattached, that student cannot compete on a California community college team in that sport or be added to the Form 3 during that sport season. *(Adopted 3/31/11 effective 7/1/11)*

1.15.11 Definitions: Competitor/Participant

- A. Competitor—is defined as a student-athlete who competes in a game, meet, or match in CCCAA-sanctioned sports. *(Revised 10/27/20 effective 11/6/20)*
- B. Participant—is defined as one who is a team member but has not competed in a CCCAA-sanctioned sport (excluding scrimmages).

1.16 MILITARY OR CHURCH SERVICE *(Revised 3/29/18 effective 7/1/18)*

A student-athlete who has been away from college fulfilling a church mission or on a military assignment, which prohibits the accumulation of units, may ask for a waiver of Bylaws 1.6.1, 1.10.2, and 1.15.1. The conference commissioner of the college where the student competed is authorized to grant the waiver. In the event of a national emergency, the CCCAA shall grant an additional season of competition to student-athletes who serve on active duty in the armed forces regardless of the number of contests in which the student-athlete had participated prior to being called to active duty. Any participation during the season in which the student-athlete was involved when called to duty would be discounted and the student would be afforded a fresh start. Any previous years of participation would remain on the student's records. *(Revised & effective 6/27/17) (Revised 3/29/18 effective 7/1/18)*

1.17 DROPPED SPORTS

- 1.17.1 If a sport is dropped before the first game, meet, or match, student-athletes may request a waiver for that sport of any Bylaw that would prevent the student-athlete from transferring and being eligible at another California community college that semester. The conference commissioner of the college where the sport was dropped has the authority to grant these waivers and shall notify the commissioner of the conference where the student is transferring to and the CCCAA Executive of this action. *(Revised & effective 11/4/16)*
- 1.17.2 If a sport is dropped by a college and falls under the following criteria, the student-athlete may request a waiver for that sport of any Bylaw that would prevent the student-athlete from transferring and being eligible at another California community college that semester, or having the partial season count as a year of eligibility.

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- A. The sport must be dropped prior to 30 percent of the institution's scheduled contests of that season. The number shall be calculated based on the number of allowable contests in that sport. *(Revised & effective 6/24/20)*
 - B. Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fraction portion shall be rounded to the next whole number. (Refer to Bylaw 1.8 to assist in computing the season) The conference commissioner has the authority to grant this waiver and shall notify the CCCAA Executive of this action. *(Revised & effective 6/28/16)*
- 1.17.3 If a sport is dropped at the end of the season, the student-athletes shall be notified as soon as possible to permit the students sufficient time to become eligible to transfer. The college shall notify the conference commissioner, using Form 6, of the intent to drop the sport, including the date and student names.
- 1.17.4 If a sport is dropped at the end of the year and the student-athletes have not been notified in sufficient time to register at another college, the students may request a waiver of the transfer rule for that sport. The conference commissioner has the authority to grant this waiver and shall notify the CCCAA Executive of this action. *(Revised & effective 6/28/16)*

1.18 EMERGING SPORTS

Exceptions can be made by the CCCAA Board for emerging sports to compete against other California community colleges without meeting eligibility and academic requirements or using a season of sport. Refer to Bylaw 3.20 for specific detail regarding initiation approval and operational regulation. *(Revised & effective 8/27/14) (Adopted 3/30/17 effective 7/1/17)*

1.19 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF BYLAW 1

- 1.19.1 See Article 7.4.11.