

PROPOSAL A: Separation of Handbooks for D1/D2 (Scholarship) and D3 (Non-Scholarship)

RATIONALE

The decision by the Sport Governance Committee to support the NJCAA in creating separate handbooks for Division I/Division II (scholarship/non-divisional) and Division III (non-scholarship) is a significant step towards clarity and specialization within the association. This approach will allow institutions to tailor their policies and procedures to the specific needs and regulations of each division, ensuring that they align with the differing philosophies and operational structures of scholarship and non-scholarship programs.

By maintaining the option for institutions to remain multi-divisional, the Sport Governance Committee acknowledges the complexity and diversity of collegiate athletics. However, the requirement for institutions to familiarize themselves with both handbooks if they operate programs in both divisions reinforces the importance of compliance and understanding of the distinct rules governing each division. This dual knowledge will help ensure that all programs are managed effectively and in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, promoting a fair and equitable playing field for all student-athletes.

Overall, this initiative can enhance governance and support the unique missions of each division while fostering a more organized and compliant athletic environment.

Timeline for Scholarship/Non-Scholarship Eligibility and Governance.

April 2025:

- Separation handbooks.
 - Committee Formation:
 - Committees stay intact, but formation of subcommittees. Governance and Eligibility
 - BOR vote based on region division representation.
 - For Quorum, 50%+1 for eligible divisional voters, including at-large and PAC members.

October 2025 and April 2026

- Accepting proposals for Non-Scholarship/Scholarship changes to be in effect for August 2026.

October 2026 and April 2027

- Divisional Commitment for August 2028

October 2027 and April 2028

- Regional Re-Alignment

SUBMITTED BY

Sport Governance

CURRENT BYLAW

None

APPROVAL

Approved by the Sport Governance Committee on 2/13/25