

Time Demands

Schedule transparency and consistency concept

Intent: To require the distribution of anticipated sport-specific athletics activities to each student-athlete on a regular basis, as specified. Further, to require the distribution of such information to prospective student-athletes on an official visit.

Rationale: Increasing the communication and transparency on the athletic activities for a student-athlete will allow them to better budget their time and determine when they may be able to participate in non-athletics activities. Student-athletes have reported a frustration with frequent changes to workouts, practice schedules and recruiting activities in particular and greater transparency may lead to a better relationship between coaches and student-athletes.

Potential bylaw(s):

1. A potential new bylaw (Bylaw 17) would specify the following:
Institutional coaching staff members shall provide a prospective schedule of athletic activities in which each student-athlete would be expected to participate. The schedule may be provided for a minimum of one week but may be provided for a longer period of time (e.g., monthly, semester). At a minimum the schedule shall outline the days, time and anticipated length of athletic commitments, regardless of whether they are mandatory or notifications of voluntary opportunities.
2. A bylaw (Bylaw 17) would outline that changes to the schedule are permissible when circumstances outside the control of the student-athlete's coach (e.g. changes necessitated due to weather, facility scheduling issue) occur and are documented with the athletics director (or designee). The institution shall document its distribution and change policy in its student-athlete handbook or similar publication provided annually to student-athletes.
3. A bylaw (Bylaw 13) would require the provision of a sample student-athlete schedule to a prospective student-athlete on an official visit. The schedule must be in the sport in which the prospect is being recruited.