



## Division III

DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

### SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTORS

Follow your passions and discover your potential. The college experience is a time of learning and growth – a chance to follow passions and develop potential. For student-athletes in Division III, this happens most importantly in the classroom and through earning an academic degree. The Division III experience provides for passionate participation in a competitive athletics environment, where student-athletes push themselves to excellence and build upon their academic success with new challenges and life skills. And student-athletes are encouraged to pursue the full spectrum of opportunities available during their time in college. In this way, Division III provides an integrated environment for student-athletes to take responsibility for their own paths, follow their passions and find their potential through a comprehensive educational experience.

PROPORTION | COMPREHENSIVE LEARNING | RESPONSIBILITY | SPORTSMANSHIP | CITIZENSHIP

## What should the administrators in your athletics department know about Division III?

We are part of Division III because we believe in the benefits of the Division III experience:

- Academics are the primary focus for Division III student-athletes. Shorter practice and playing seasons, no red-shirting and regional competition minimize time away from their academic studies and keep student-athletes on a path to graduation.
- Student-athletes are integrated on campus and treated like all other members of the general student body, keeping them focused on being a student first.
- Participation in athletics provides valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
  - Talk about your successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should alumni know about Division III?

We are proud to be associated with our institution's athletics department because of the benefits it has provided its student-athletes:

- Our institution develops student-athlete potential through a comprehensive educational approach.
- Our institution offers athletics for the educational value and benefit to the student-athlete, not for the purposes of revenue generation or entertainment.
- Participation in our athletics program provides valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- Student-athletes compete in a highly competitive athletics program and retain the full spectrum of college life.
- Student-athletes do not receive monetary incentive to play sports, but rather participate for the love of the game.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete (or alumni) who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
  - Talk about your successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should your coaches know about Division III?

There is benefit to our institution's athletics offerings and to being a part of the Division III experience:

- Academics are the primary focus for Division III student-athletes. Shorter practice and playing seasons, no red-shirting and regional competition minimize time away from their academic studies and keep student-athletes on a path to graduation.
- Student-athletes are integrated on campus and treated like all other members of the general student body, keeping them focused on being a student first.
- Participation in athletics provides valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
  - Talk about your successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should your local community know about Division III?

We are proud that this institution is in our community due to the benefits it has provided its student-athletes:

- This institution develops student-athlete potential through a comprehensive educational approach.
- This institution offers athletics for the educational value and benefit to the student-athlete, not for the purposes of revenue generation or entertainment.
- Participation in this athletics program provides valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- Their student-athletes compete in a highly competitive athletics program and retain the full spectrum of college life.
- Their student-athletes do not receive monetary incentive to play sports, but rather participate for the love of the game.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete (or alumni) who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
  - Talk about your successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should the conference office know about Division III?

The institutions in my conference are providing meaningful experiences and benefits to their student-athletes:

- Academics are the primary focus for Division III student-athletes. Shorter practice and playing seasons, no red-shirting and regional competition minimize time away from their academic studies and keep student-athletes on a path to graduation.
- Student-athletes are integrated on campus and treated like all other members of the general student body, keeping them focused on being a student first.
- Participation in athletics provides valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of your conference student-athletes as examples of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about the campus environment of your various members – what percentage of their student bodies participate in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into their campus cultures and educational missions?
  - Find a conference student-athlete who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your conference institutions’ student bodies and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout your conference members and the various sports they sponsor.
  - Talk about your conference and conference members’ successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your conference members’ athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should fans know about Division III?

Division III athletics are competitive and demonstrate the dedication of our student-athletes:

- This institution develops student-athlete potential through a comprehensive educational approach.
- This institution offers athletics for the educational value and benefit to the student-athlete, not for the purposes of revenue generation or entertainment.
- Participation in our athletics program provides valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- Student-athletes compete in a highly competitive athletics program and retain the full spectrum of college life.
- Student-athletes do not receive monetary incentive to play sports, but rather participate for the love of the game.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete (or alumni) who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
  - Talk about your successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should the media know about Division III?

There are stories about Division III student-athletes that are interesting and meaningful. There are stories about corporate, civic, government, and community leaders and contributors that could be interesting and meaningful because of the impact that their athletics experience has played in their lives:

- Student-athlete potential is developed through a comprehensive educational approach.
- Division III institutions offer athletics for the educational value and benefit to the student-athlete, not for the purposes of revenue generation or entertainment.
- Participation in Division III athletics programs provide valuable “life lessons” for student-athletes (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- Division III student-athletes compete in a highly competitive athletics program and retain the full spectrum of college life.
- Division III student-athletes do not receive monetary incentive to play sports, but rather participate for the love of the game.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
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## What should prospective student-athletes and their parents know about Division III?

Participating in Division III athletics will provide student-athletes with tremendous benefits:

- Student-athletes will continue to compete in a highly competitive athletics program and retain the full spectrum of college life.
- Student-athletes will focus on academic achievement while graduating with a comprehensive education that builds skills beyond the classroom.
- Student-athletes will have access to financial aid for college without the obligation of an athletics scholarship.
- There are opportunities to play more than one sport.
- Student-athletes are responsible for their own paths and will discover their potential through opportunities to pursue many interests.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of the student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of the student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
  - Talk about your successes in NCAA championship competition.
  - Talk about the breadth of your athletics programs – participation, sports offerings, etc.



## What should current student-athletes know about Division III?

We are proud of you as members of our student body and place great importance on how this experience will benefit you:

- Academics are your primary focus. Shorter practice and playing seasons, no red-shirting and regional competition minimize time away from your academic studies and keep you on a path to graduation.
- You are integrated on campus and treated like all other members of the general student body, keeping you focused on being a student first.
- Participation in athletics provides you with valuable “life lessons” (teamwork, discipline, perseverance, leadership, etc.), which often translate into becoming a better student and more responsible citizen.
- The proof?
  - Tell the story of a student-athlete who is an example of receiving a comprehensive educational experience – a holistic educational approach that includes rigorous academics, competitive athletics and the opportunities to pursue other interests and passions.
  - Talk about your campus environment – what percentage of your student body participates in athletics? What programs or processes exist to integrate the student-athletes into the campus culture and educational mission of the college or university?
  - Find a student-athlete (or alumni) who can attest to selecting your institution and the Division III experience for its academic programs.
  - Emphasize the availability of financial aid – what percentage of your student body and/or student-athletes receive some form of grant or non-athletics scholarship?
  - Talk about the athletics successes throughout the various sports you sponsor.
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