

Report of the Eligibility Committee

January 5, 2016

Three Cases have been brought before the Committee since the Spring meeting. These cases will be added to the ICSA Eligibility Case Book and Guide which will be revised to reflect the changes in the changes to the Procedural Rules dated 9/5/2015 within the next month.

1. Case PR 12(a) -22 (2015) Determination of full time Undergraduate status.

Question: Is a Student-Athlete eligible, if currently classified as a Junior scheduled to receive a Bachelor's of Engineering in May 2017 but also is concurrently enrolled in the University's Graduate School of Engineering in the Master's of Science program and will receive that degree in May 2017. The Student-Athlete is taking 10 hours of undergraduate coursework, 6 hours of graduate coursework, and 2 hours of graduate research. This is classified as a "full-load" for tuition purposes. However, the Student-Athlete is not classified as a full-time undergraduate student for federal financial aid purposes, because the Student-Athlete is enrolled in less than 12 hours of undergraduate coursework.

The Dean of Engineering provided the following: "The University considers a Dual-Degree student who is enrolled in 10 undergraduate hours and 6 graduate hours to be a full-time undergraduate student. "

Answer: Yes: From the preamble to the Cases relating to PR 12(a) of the ICSA Eligibility Case Book & Guide:

"To be eligible to represent a college in competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a full-time undergraduate program of studies at the college they represent..."

The word "enrolled" means that competitors have completed their school's registration process and are acknowledged as official students by that school. The term "full-time" means that they are taking a full load of classes as defined by their school."

This answer does not apply to all schools, only the school in question. A Student-Athlete should check with their school administration to determine whether or not their school considers them to have full-time undergraduate status if there might be a question relating to their ICSA Eligibility. A review of Cases PR 12(a) - 19, PR 12(d) - 3, 5, 6 could also be helpful.

2. Case PR 12(a) - 23 (2015) Eligibility of Foreign Exchange students

Question: Is a Student-Athlete who is a foreign exchange student eligible? The following information was submitted:

- 1) The Student-Athlete is enrolled at an ICSA Member University as part of an exchange program with a Foreign University. The Student-Athlete has a spot studying at the Exchange University while a student from the Exchange University is studying in at the Home University.
- 2) There is an active exchange program with the Exchange University through which Home University students are eligible to take classes at the Exchange University each semester, and the Exchange University students take classes at the Home University.

- 3) The Home University's policy is unknown relative to the Student Athlete's participating in athletic competition at the Exchange University.
- 4) The Exchange University does not have any restrictions concerning the participation of exchange students in athletic competitions for the Exchange University?
- 5) All of the classes the Student-Athlete is taking are undergraduate classes.
- 6) Some the classes enrolled in at the Exchange University are related to the Student-Athlete's major and some are free elective subjects that will count toward the completion of the degree
- 7) The Student-Athlete does not have an undergraduate degree.
- 8) The Exchange University considers Student-Athlete to be a full-time student in a non-degree program.
- 9) At a university level the Student-Athlete has only competed in World University Championships representing Student-Athlete's country not specifically the Student Athlete's Home University. The Home University was not involved in the selection process.

Answer: No This question has been answered in **Case PR 12(c) – 14 (2006)** [Exchange program eligibility] stated below:

“Question: Is a student eligible to sail for a team at a school granting the student full-time status while attending that school while on an exchange program.

Answer: No. Procedural Rule 12(c)(ii) states "Not student shall compete for more than one college in any one season except as specified in PR 14(c)." The purpose of this rule is to make sure that the competition is between teams of students that can clearly identified with the school at which they are enrolled. The Rule implies that a student cannot be eligible to sail for more than one school in a season. When a student participates in an exchange program with another school they normally do not lose their full-time status with their school, and therefore remain eligible to compete for their school. The fact that the exchange school grants them full-time status does not make a student eligible to compete for the exchange school.”

The information provided including: 1. No mention of the Student-Athlete's Home University having have a sailing team and 2. That the Home University was not involved in the selection process for the only university competition, does not provide an exception to the answer in Case PR 12(c) -14.

3. Case PR 12 (c) - 27 (2015) Request for eligibility extension due to injury

Question: Should a Student Athlete be granted an additional year of eligibility due to an injury during a team workout causing both wrists to be broken? The Student-Athlete competed in one ICSA event as an entering Freshman in the middle of September just prior to the injury. The Student-Athlete missed a great deal of school and ended up withdrawing from one class. A Doctor's statement was supplied stating: It is anticipated that the Student-Athlete will be able to return to sailing as of January 1st.

Answer: No. PR 12(c)(v) revised 9/5/15 states that when a Student-Athlete has been scored in a single race in any ICSA regatta in a given season, they have competed in that year. Thus since one ICSA regatta was scored for this Student-Athlete a year of eligibility has been used whether or not additional ICSA regattas are scored for that Student-Athlete.

The Doctor's statement that the Student-Athlete will be able to resume sailing January 1st, indicates that the Student-Athlete will be able to compete for the Spring Season and thus be able to use the majority of the first year of eligibility.

There is no compelling reason to extend the number of years of eligibility for this Student-Athlete, and under the Procedural Rules revised 9/5/15 it is not possible to grant an extension of a Season of eligibility.