

Eligibility Committee Report

Winter 2018

The Eligibility Committee dealt with one major case this past Fall. The Chair responded to one question. It was noted that an earlier case [Case PR 12(c) -27] had not been included in the Case Book & Guide because of the changes made to the 9/5/15 version of the Procedural Rules by the Board of Directors and later reversed. A record of that decision is included in this report for reference. Only the statement in bold below will be made part of the revised Case Book & Guide because it applies to rules that no longer exist.

Case PR 12(c) – 27 (2015) Request for Extension Beyond 5 yr Limit

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.

CASE PR 12(c) – 27 (2015) WAS DELETED FROM THE CASE BOOK & GUIDE WHEN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD VOTED TO RETURN FROM A YEAR TO A SEASON AS A UNIT OF ELIGIBILITY WITH THE 2017-2020 PROCEDURAL RULES.

Case PR 12(c) – 28 (2017) Request for Extension Beyond 5 yr Limit

Question: Should a Student-Athlete who first competed Fall 12 and has listed S 18 as a graduation date using three seasons of eligibility (F 13, S 14) be granted a 6th year of

eligibility, if the individual succumbed to substance abuse and voluntarily dropped out of school and entered rehabilitation centers for a period of more that a year?

Answer: Yes. Each case will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. In this case the Student-Athlete was granted a waiver of the five-year limitation on eligibility [PR 12(c)(ii)]. The waiver shall begin to immediately following the expiration of the five-year limit and shall be for two consecutive seasons of eligibility [F17, S18]. The waiver is based on the protections afforded to the Student-Athlete by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

As the result of Case PR 12(c) - 28 it was determined that guidelines needed to be provided for individuals requesting waivers to extend the five-year limit on eligibility.

It is proposed that the attached be added to the Procedural Rules which was reviewed and edited by the ICSA Rules Committee.

Chair's Response (2017) - Must be a student at a Member ICSA School to have eligibility

An individual attending a Junior College with a transfer agreement to a 4 year college asked if it was possible to get a wavier for a 6th year of eligibility. The individual was contemplating a transfer to a 4-year college (not having a transfer agreement) and then taking a Master's degree at another university referencing NCAA rules. Only the University had a team which was a member of ICSA. The Chair responded that The ICSA has its own eligibility rules and in order to be eligible that the individual needed to attend a school that was a member of the ICSA as an undergraduate.

