

Report of the Eligibility Committee
May 26, 2014

1. Question: If a student-athlete is scored as DNS in all the races of the first day of a two day regatta where no races were sailed and did not sail on the second day of that regatta, did the student-athlete use a season of eligibility?

Answer: PR 12(c) states:

“c) Seasons of Participation

i) No student-athlete shall compete for more than eight seasons within five consecutive years, beginning with the season in which the student athlete first competes in an inter-collegiate regatta. The Fall Season is August 16 - January 15 and the Spring Season is January 16 – June 30.”

The key word is “compete”. Because of lack of wind, no races were sailed on the first day of the event. Although the races for the second day were scored, the student-athlete did not compete and therefore did not use a season of eligibility.

Reference: Case PR 12(c) - 18 in the ICSA Eligibility Case Book and Guide.

Case PR 12(c) – 18 (2008) Registering does not use a season of eligibility.

Question: If an individual registers with a Conference using the ICSA Individual Directory, but does not sail in any college regattas, does that individual use a season of eligibility?

Answer: No. PR12(c)(i) uses the word “compete” when establishing the 8 season limit for eligibility. Thus, if an individual did not sail in a college regatta the individual did not “compete” and thus did not use a season of eligibility. It would be wise for the individual to maintain a record of the events and individuals who sailed for that college.

It would be appropriate for the regatta report be amended to show “DNC” instead of “DNS”

By the way the original question is stated, it is unclear as to whether or not the other requirements of PR 12 will be met during future seasons.

The response was given by the Chair. The individual making the interpretation has not requested that it be sent to the entire committee for review.

2. Question: A Student-Athlete will be participating in an exchange program to another ICSA member next Fall. Will she still be eligible to sail for the school where she currently is enrolled, be eligible to sail for the other ICSA member school, or not eligible at all?

Answer: Case 12(c) -14 clearly indicates that the Student-Athlete is not eligible to sail for the other ICSA member school. Thus, the remaining question is the student-Athlete eligible to sail for the school where she is currently enrolled?

In order to be eligible the Student-Athlete must meet all the requirements to be eligible. Among those are: “be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time undergraduate program of studies at the college they represent” [PR 12(a)]. While Case 12(a)- 1 indicates the need for a cross registration agreement or dual enrollment procedure. It also indicates the need for a policy for all students to retain their eligibility when the Student-Athlete is not enrolled in courses at that university.

Most Universities do not have such policies that apply to all students, thus students on exchange programs would not be eligible during the period of the exchange program, although they might be considered full time students.

If the school at which she is currently enrolled has such a policy it would need to be noted, including any details which might have a bearing on this case.

The response was given by the Chair. The individual making the interpretation has not requested that the issue be sent to the entire committee for review.

3. Question: Should a Student-Athlete who received a concussion while preparing to practice for a sailing team event prior to the start of a season causing the student to be unable to compete and drop out of classes for the remainder of the season and the following season, be granted an extra season of eligibility even though the Student-Athlete competed in two events of a 12 event season?

Answer: Yes. The accident occurred prior to the start of the season and was not the fault of the Student-Athlete. The documented failure to diagnose a concussion caused the Student-Athlete to participate in two events while injured meets the argument that the request be compelling. The record of that participation cannot be erased, however, an additional season of eligibility can be awarded provided that the Student-Athlete meets all other requirements for eligibility during the extended season.