



# NAIA EMERGING SPORTS



# NEW EMERGING SPORTS POLICY

- EMERGING
  - 15 or more institutions sponsoring as varsity and declared for postseason
  
- INVITATIONAL
  - 25 or more institutions sponsoring as varsity and declared for postseason
  - Approval of the National Administrative Council
  
- CHAMPIONSHIP
  - 40 or more institutions sponsoring as varsity
  - Minimum of two Invitationals held
  - Approval of the National Administrative Council

# SPORT STATUS

**COMPETITIVE CHEER AND DANCE**

- 2014-15 Invitational (Year 1)
- 63 Varsity / 48 Club

**MEN'S BOWLING**

- 2015-16 Invitational\*
- 41 Varsity / 5 Club

**MEN'S LACROSSE**

- 2016-17 Invitational\*
- 23 Varsity / 15 Club

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL**

- 2015-16 Invitational\*
- 26 Varsity / 8 Club

**WOMEN'S BOWLING**

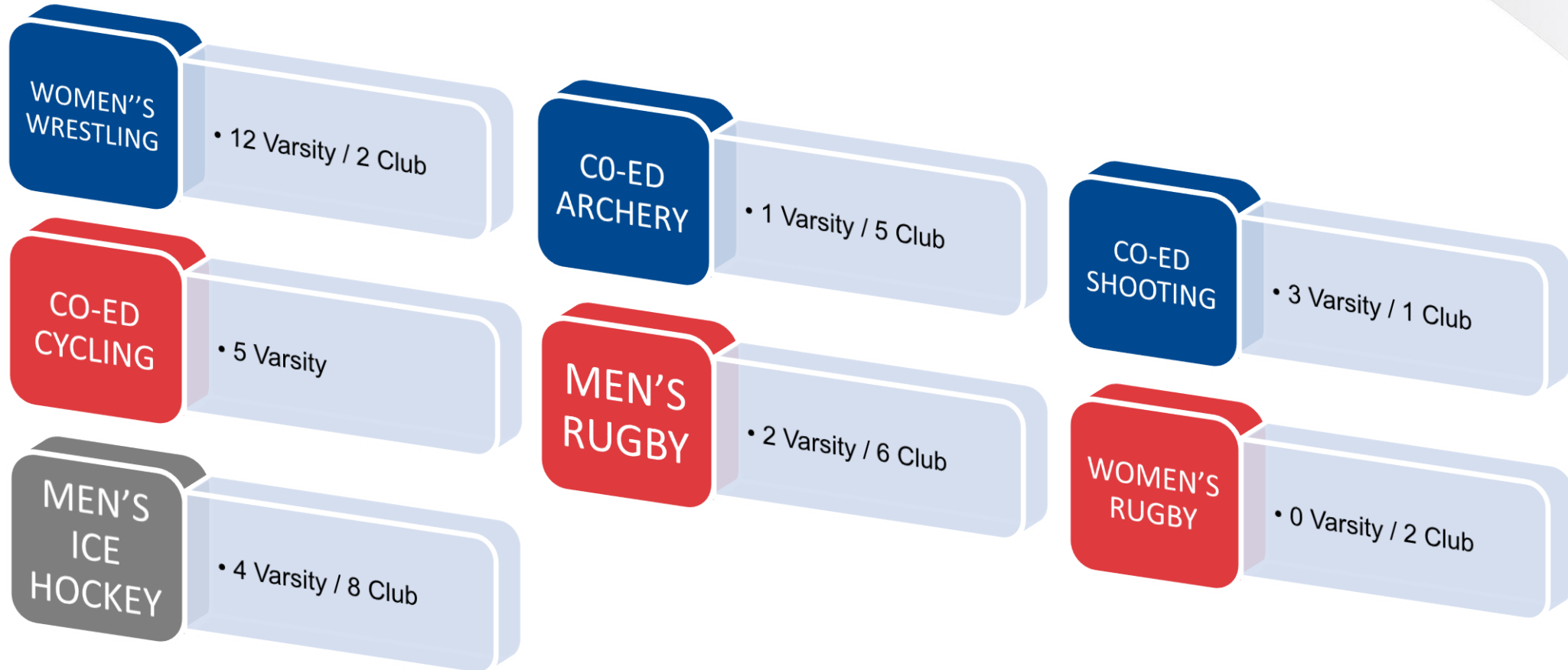
- 2015-16 Invitational\*
- 42 Varsity / 5 Club

**WOMEN'S LACROSSE**

- 2016-17 Invitational\*
- 20 Varsity / 6 Club

\*First year possible

## SPORT STATUS (cont'd)





# STEPS TO BECOMING AN NAIA INVITATIONAL SPORT

- 25 Sponsoring Institutions
  - Must have declared intent to participate in postseason
- Sport Manual
  - Coaches Association Structure
  - Constitution & Bylaws
  - Playing Rules
  - Post-season format and qualification
  - Ratings, Statistics, and Awards
- National Administrative Council Approval
  - Requests submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015



# DECLARING CLUB VS VARSITY

- Varsity Sport
  - Declared by the institution as Varsity
  - Administered by the Athletics Department
  - Eligibility is reviewed and certified by the FAR
  - Qualified participants receive official varsity awards
  
- Club Sport
  - Not administered by the Athletics Department
  - Not recognized by the NAIA
  - Does not count towards official statistics or W-L records



# EMERGING SPORTS GOVERNING RULES

- Follow rules of the league or association in which the program competes
- Student-athletes do not register with the Eligibility Center



# INVITATIONAL SPORTS GOVERNING RULES

- Year 1
  - Follow rules of the league or association in which the program competes
  - Student-athletes do not register with the Eligibility Center
  
- Year 2
  - Follow NAIA rules
  - Incoming student-athletes register with the EC
    - Current student-athletes do not register (if previously certified on campus)
  - NAIA will sponsor national invitational competition





# ADDING A NEW SPORT ON YOUR CAMPUS

- Current Resources
  - Consultation of on-campus departments
  - Consultation within NAIA Community
  - Sport Resource Manual
  
- Upcoming Resources
  - Comprehensive national and regional data
  - Partnerships with sport-specific experts (national governing bodies, national coaches associations, etc.)



# RESOURCES

- Coaches Corners
- NAC Emerging Sports Policy (NAIA Official Handbook)
- Governing Body Sport Rulebook
- Emerging Sports Resource Manual



## NEXT STEPS

- Sport-specific conference calls
- Establishment/Formalization of Coaches Associations
- Development of Sport Manuals
- Competitive Cheer & Dance Webinar (Date TBD)
- NAIAHelp Communication



# CONTACTS

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**QUESTIONS?**