



## 2026-27 Cross Country Policy Updates

**This document outlines all rules motions presented to the NAIA National Administrative Council (NAC), including both approved and denied proposals.**

| Approved Motions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Effective Date |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Increase the Men's and Women's Cross Country Oversight Committee from 3 members to 5 members made up of 4 coaches and the NAC sport liaison.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2026-27        |
| Allow the Cross Country Men's & Women's Oversight Committee to pull a ballot during any ratings period with a two-thirds vote.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2026-27        |
| NAIA Marathon Special Event – approved to take place at the BMW Dallas Marathon on Sunday, December 13 <sup>th</sup> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2026-27        |
| Red Banner Scholar Athlete – This award will be presented to the student-athlete(s) with the highest grade point average at every NAIA National Championship Final Site. To be eligible for consideration, a student-athlete must: 1. Be listed on the official active championship roster for the national championship final site. 2. Be recognized as an NAIA Scholar-Athlete through the established NAIA Scholar-Athlete process for that academic year. 3. Meet all existing NAIA Scholar-Athlete requirements. | 2026-27        |

| Denied Motions                                    | Rationale                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cross Country Motion #3<br>– Head-to-head results | This motion may invalidate a team's body of work and place a strong emphasis on their last performance. |