

CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 3

# SEC Membership

3.0	General Principle .....	3
3.1	Membership, Termination, Suspension and Dues .....	3

## 3.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLE

The SEC is both a competitive body and a legislative body, as defined in Articles 3.02.1 and 3.02.2 of the NCAA Constitution.

## 3.1 MEMBERSHIP, TERMINATION, SUSPENSION

**\*3.1.1 Number of Members.** The number of members of the Conference shall be set by the Chief Executive Officers. *[Revised: 5/30/91]*

**\*3.1.2 Granting of Membership.** Membership may be granted by invitation of the Conference at a meeting of the Chief Executive Officers. A vote of at least three-fourths of the members is required to extend an invitation for membership. *[Revised: 5/30/91]*  
*[Clarified/Conformed: 6/1/11]*

**\*3.1.3 Suspension of Membership.** Membership may be suspended at a meeting of the Chief Executive Officers. A member may be suspended at any time by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members, either indefinitely or for a stated period, for any conduct deemed to be incompatible with membership. *[Clarified/Conformed: 6/1/11]*

**\*3.1.4 Withdrawal from Membership.** A member may only withdraw from membership in the Conference after providing written notice to the President and the Commissioner of the date of its withdrawal at least two years prior to the date on which the withdrawal will be effective. The withdrawal notice must specify a withdrawal date of July 15 in the year in which the withdrawal will be effective. *[Adopted: 1/14/21]*

(a) A member shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Conference if and when the member either (i) fails or refuses, or renounces its obligation, to field a team to compete in Conference football competition or basketball competition, or (ii) fails or refuses to fulfill or renounces its obligations to field teams and participate in Conference sports competitions and championships, including but not limited to its obligations under SEC Bylaws 22.1.1 or 22.1.2, as such SEC Bylaws may be renumbered or amended from time to time, or NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6, as such NCAA Bylaw may be renumbered or amended from time to time. Any determination that a deemed withdrawal has occurred shall be made by the Commissioner and shall specify the effective date of such deemed withdrawal (which date may be prior to the date of determination by the Commissioner).

(b) In the event that, upon request of the member deemed to have withdrawn pursuant to Section 3.1.4(a), the Commissioner determines that a failure of the member to fulfill its obligations is attributable to and caused by circumstances or events beyond the reasonable control of the member, the member shall not be deemed to have withdrawn from the Conference under Section 3.1.4(a) and the prior determination of withdrawal shall be deemed rescinded, provided that the member comes into full compliance with such obligations at such time as the Commissioner determines that the circumstances or events no longer prevent fulfillment of such obligations.

(c) Any member may appeal any determination of the Commissioner under this Section 3.1.4 to the Chief Executive Officers. A quorum of the Chief Executive Officers may, by a vote of a majority of all the Chief Executive Officers, reverse or modify any determination of the Commissioner. The Chief Executive Officer of a member that has failed, refused, or renounced its obligations shall be eligible to vote.

**\*3.1.5 Termination of Membership.** Membership of a member may be terminated involuntarily at a meeting of the Chief Executive Officers. A vote of at least two-thirds of all the Chief Executive Officers is required to terminate membership. Any motion to terminate membership shall specify the effective date of the proposed termination. *[Revised: 1/14/21]*

**\*3.1.6 Effect of Withdrawal from or Termination of Membership.** As of the effective date of the termination, withdrawal, or deemed withdrawal of a member of the Conference, such member shall not have a right to receive and will not be paid any distributions of revenue from the Conference, including but not limited to distributions pursuant to Bylaw 31. *[Adopted: 1/14/21]*

## 3.2 WITHDRAWAL FEE

**\*3.2.1 Obligation to Pay Withdrawal Fee.** A member that provides notice of withdrawal from the Conference as required by Section 3.1.4 shall pay a withdrawal fee to the Conference of \$30 million on or before the effective date of the withdrawal. *[Adopted: 1/14/21]*

**\*3.2.2 Additional Withdrawal Fee.** A member that withdraws from the Conference without providing notice of withdrawal as required by Section 3.1.4 shall pay a withdrawal fee of \$40 million to the Conference immediately upon providing notice of withdrawal (or if no notice is provided, as of the effective date of such withdrawal). *[Adopted: 1/14/21]*

**\*3.2.3 Withdrawal Fee—Member Deemed to Have Withdrawn.** A member deemed to have withdrawn from the Conference shall pay a withdrawal fee of \$45 million to the Conference immediately upon being informed that the Commissioner has determined that the member is deemed to have withdrawn. *[Adopted: 1/14/21]*

**\*3.2.4 Reduction of Distributions to Withdrawing Member.** The Commissioner may, at any time (including prior to the effective date of any withdrawal or deemed withdrawal), reduce any distributions otherwise payable to a member that has provided notice of withdrawal or who has been deemed to have withdrawn, including but not limited to distributions otherwise provided for in Bylaw 31, and apply such distributions to the withdrawal fee payable by the member to the Conference. *[Adopted: 1/14/21]*