

July 17, 2013

INFORMATION ITEM

The University of Montana Western will add varsity men's and women's cross country teams to begin competition by fall 2015

EXPLANATION

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) bylaws (Article I Section A) and those of the Frontier Conference require member institutions to sponsor a minimum of six championship sports by the beginning of the 2015-16 academic year.

Montana Western currently sponsors four NAIA championship sports: football, men's basketball, volleyball and women's basketball. Cost comparisons and a student interest survey were completed to evaluate the feasibility of all other NAIA championship sports. The Athletic Committee reviewed the information and has recommended the addition of men's and women's cross country as the fifth and sixth championship sports. The Chancellor has approved this recommendation.

The proposed timeline for adding the sports includes a BOR proposal for the addition of a coaching stipend/salary for the 2014-15 academic year in preparation for varsity competition which must begin on or before the fall of 2015. Fall 2013 is the target date for presenting the coaching salary to the Board of Regents for approval.

ATTACHMENTS

No attachments