

The President
21 August 2012



NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
and Sports Confederation of Denmark

National Collegial Athletic Association
By e-mail

Conversion of Danish grades to US Grades via ECTS

Dear Sirs,

For decades, Danish high-level athletes have been accepted in US Universities by virtue of their athletic skills and their academic grades. A system that have worked perfectly to the benefit of both the Universities and the students.

In 2007, the Danish grades system was changed to the Seven-Point-Scale to comply with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Until 2012, the NCAA's conversion to US Grades has worked seamlessly according to the following conversion scale:

| | Numeric Grade | U.S Grade Equivalent | Quality Points | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Excellent Performance | 12 | A | 4 | |
| Very Good Performance | 10 | A | 4 | |
| Good Performance | 7 | B | 3 | |
| Fair Performance | 4 | C | 2 | |
| Minimum Acceptable Performance | 02 | D | 1 | (lowest passing grade) |
| Inadequate Performance | 00 | F | 0 | |
| Unacceptable Performance | -3 | F | 0 | |

However, in December 2011, the NCAA announced that the following grading scales will be applicable to students enrolling (initial full-time enrollment or transfer student-athletes) in an NCAA member institution for fall 2012 and beyond (ref. : International Standards 2011-12 - Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility - Updated December 2011):

| | Numeric Grade | U.S Grade Equivalent | Quality Points | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Excellent Performance | 12 | A | 4 | |
| Very Good Performance | 10 | B | 3 | |
| Good Performance | 7 | C | 2 | |
| Fair Performance | 4 | D | 1 | |
| Minimum Acceptable Performance | 02 | D | 1 | (lowest passing grade) |
| Inadequate Performance | 00 | F | 0 | |
| Unacceptable Performance | -3 | F | 0 | |

As can be seen, the Danish grades 10, 7, and 4 has been downgraded in value, thus giving less quality points.

Consequently, a number of Danish students are currently experiencing difficulties being declared eligible by the NCAA because of an inadequate Grade Point Average (GPA).

However, the academic level required to obtain these grades in Denmark has not been changed, and neither has the conversion of the Danish grades to the ECTS system, as documented by the following conversion table from Danish Grades to ECTS Grades, as established by the Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education (ref. www.iu.dk/dokumentation/ects/ects-karakterskala):

| Danish Grades | ECTS Grades | % |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------|
| 12 | A | 10 |
| 10 | B | 25 |
| 7 | C | 30 |
| 4 | D | 25 |
| 02 | E | 10 |
| 00 | FX | |
| -3 | F | |

We are not aware why the NCAA made the mentioned changes in the conversion of the Danish grades to US Grades, but we believe that it is fair to conclude that Danish athletes/students for decades, and in recent years as well, have been able to up to the NCAA's requirements both academically and athletically, thus making it hard to understand for me as President of the NOC and Sports Confederation of Denmark why such a change should be necessary.

It is a very unfortunate situation for the young athletes/students, for sports in Denmark, and for the US Universities as well, if qualified students are denied access to the Universities due to a probably not totally fair conversion of Grades from one system to another.

We therefore kindly recommend the NCAA to look into this matter once again.

Thank you very much for taking this request into consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Niels Nygaard', written in a cursive style.

Niels Nygaard
President