



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
APRIL 29, 2020, MEETING**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

**1. Impact of COVID-19 on Intercollegiate Athletics.**

- a. **NCAA COVID-19 Advisory Team Update.** The NCAA Division I Board of Directors received an update from NCAA chief medical officer Dr. Brian Hainline regarding core principles for the resocialization of sport in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. A document outlining the information included in Dr. Hainline's presentation was distributed broadly to the membership May 1.
- b. **Update on NCAA COVID-19 Playing and Practice Seasons Working Group.** The Board received an update on the COVID-19 Playing and Practice Seasons Working Group, which is an internal cross-functional team that is responsible for identifying and recommending solutions and/or providing responses to playing and practice issues of a national scope arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The group will support the Division I governance structure as it evaluates and makes decisions on key issues, such as the return to practice and competition in football and all other fall sports.
- c. **Overview of Decisions by the NCAA Board of Governors and the Division I Board of Directors.** Vice president of Division I, Kevin Lennon, provided an overview of several key decisions made by of the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors related to the 2020 Division I revenue distribution in response to the cancellation of all winter and spring championships. During its May teleconference, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee will consider whether accountability or reporting measures should be established given the decision to permit the use of all 2020 revenue distribution funds in an unrestricted manner.
- d. **Overview of Decisions by the NCAA Division I Council and Council Coordination Committee.** Chair of the Council, Grace Calhoun, provided an overview of actions taken by the Council and Council Coordination Committee in response to COVID-19.
- e. **Blanket Waiver Request from Commissioners of the Nonautonomy Football Bowl Subdivision Conferences, NCAA Football Championship Subdivision Conferences and Division I Subdivision Conferences.** The Board of Directors discussed and provided feedback on waiver requests submitted by 27 of the 32 NCAA Division I multisport conferences seeking blanket waiver relief from multiple membership requirements and other legislative provisions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board of Directors agreed with the guiding principles by which the waiver requests will be evaluated and encouraged the Council, or its Coordination Committee, to act quickly (e.g., prior to the May 20 Council meeting) on waiver request items that have a direct impact on campus budget decisions, which are, in many cases, in the process of being made. Such items may include, for example, waivers that impact scheduling (e.g., minimum number of contests) and minimum financial aid

requirements. The Board strongly encourages swift action, particularly in areas in which there appears to be consensus. [Note: Following receipt of the Board's feedback, the Council Coordination Committee approved waivers during its May 6 teleconference related to summer athletics activities, minimum institutional financial aid requirements and scheduling requirements. Additional blanket waivers will be considered by the Council during its May 20 meeting.]

2. **Name, Image and Likeness Review.** The Board provided presidential perspective on legislative concepts related to the use of a student-athlete's name, image and likeness developed by the NCAA Division I Name, Image and Likeness Legislative Solutions Group. The Legislative Solutions Group will review the Board's feedback and continue to refine the legislative concepts during its May 19 meeting in preparation for solicitation of broader membership feedback. The Board acknowledged the need for the Association to demonstrate progress and a commitment to change despite the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board supports working toward a vote by January 2021 on formal legislative proposals to provide an appropriate amount of time for discourse and thoughtful feedback by the membership while institutions and conferences are also working to address the broad impact of COVID-19.
3. **NCAA Division I Transfer Waiver Working Group Update.** The Board discussed the report and recommendations from the Transfer Waiver Working Group. With support from the Council and NCAA Division I Presidential Forum, the Board of Directors lifted the moratorium on legislative proposals related to transfer eligibility so that the membership may consider options for a long-term solution through the standard legislative process. The Board also provided notice to the Council that it does not support the one-time transfer waiver guideline proposed by the Transfer Waiver Working Group at this time. The Board noted concerns about making substantial changes to the transfer environment during such an uncertain time and with adopting changes to waiver guidelines that may not align with future legislative changes. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)
  - **Update on the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics review of transfer legislation.** Chair of the Division I Committee on Academics, Georgetown University President Jack DeGioia, provided an overview of the committee's discussions regarding academic-based transfer models. The Board previously charged the Committee on Academics with developing recommendations for academic criteria associated with a four-year college transfer exception. The Committee on Academics presented two models for initial Board reaction and will discuss them further during its May meeting:

Model No. 1: A student-athlete presents a 2.60 GPA at the previous institution and is academically eligible at both institutions at the time of transfer.

Model No. 2: A student-athlete who transfers in the first two years of enrollment must present a 2.60 GPA at the previous institution and be academically eligible at both

institutions. A student-athlete who transfers after the start of the third year of enrollment must present a 3.00 GPA at the previous institution and be eligible at both institutions.

4. **Division I Modernization Agenda to Advance the Collegiate Model.** The Board of Directors received an update regarding the development of a broader modernization agenda to reaffirm the values of the collegiate model in support of the 21<sup>st</sup> century student-athlete. The group received an overview of draft strategic priorities that were developed based on feedback previously provided. The identified strategic priority areas align with the Board of Directors Strategic Areas of Emphasis for 2018-2023 and prioritize fairness to the student athlete. The strategic priorities are guided by a commitment to student-athlete centered decision making and the student-athlete voice. The four overarching priorities include: (1) Student-Athlete Experience; (2) Health and Safety; (3) Financial Sustainability; and (4) Academic Success. In addition, the Board supported the Presidential Forum's recommendation that the Forum provide leadership in addressing financial sustainability as a strategic priority review area.
5. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the Finance Committee's April 28 meeting. In response to a referral from the Council, the Finance Committee approved a recommendation to permit unrestricted use of funds remaining from the 2017 special one-time distribution of \$200 million. The Finance Committee's decision provides additional flexibility to institutions and conferences in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. During its meeting, the Finance Committee continued to address the impact of COVID-19 on revenue distribution. In March, the Council Coordination Committee approved a blanket waiver of minimum contests sports-sponsorship requirements for the 2019-20 academic year recognizing that institutions did not conduct spring sports due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A portion of the regular revenue distribution calculation is based on the number of sports an institution sponsored the previous academic year, as well as meeting contest and participation requirements. Because spring sports did not complete their seasons, the Finance Committee agreed to base revenue distribution funds on the number of sports the institution intended to sponsor in spring 2020 as reported on the NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Demographic form. This is a one-time, extraordinary action, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, the NCAA Basketball Performance Fund considers an institution's performance in the NCAA Division Men's Basketball Championship over the past six academic years. The Finance Committee will seek membership input and discuss, in August, how to address the fact that there is no performance data for the 2019-20 academic year due to the cancellation of the championship.
6. **Division I Council Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on actions taken and issues reviewed by the Council during its April 24 meeting, including the adoption of legislative proposals related to postgraduate transfer eligibility and modification of the playing schedule in men's basketball as it relates to participation in multiteam events. Council chair, Grace Calhoun, also noted that during its May meeting, the Council will consider a recommendation from the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee to create a legislative

moratorium on conference-sponsored, Council-governance proposals in the next legislative cycle. Calhoun also shared that the sport oversight committees are discussing and studying possible models for summer and fall athletics participation.

7. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on key items and issues, which highlighted recent contributions and areas of emphasis for the year ahead. The primary areas in which the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has recently engaged in influencing legislation and policy include the development of educational resources related to transfer regulations, name, image and likeness and providing the student-athlete perspective on waiver requests that have been made due to the impact of COVID-19. In addition, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee elected Ethan Good, Bowling Green State University, Mid-American Conference, to serve as chair of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. As chair, Good will serve as a voting member of the Board of Directors.
8. **Committee on Academics Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the work of the Committee on Academics, including highlights from items that will be reviewed during its May 2020 meeting and a review of its key priorities. The Committee on Academics key priorities include: (1) A holistic review of the NCAA Division I Academic Performance Program; (2) Academic-based transfer models; and (3) the NCAA Division I Wrestling Academic Enhancement Working Group.
9. **NCAA President's Report.** The Board of Directors received an update from President Emmert regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.
10. **Board of Governors Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on actions taken and issues reviewed by the Board of Governors, including amendments that were made to the Association-wide campus sexual violence policy.
11. **Legal Update.** The Board of Directors received a privileged and confidential update from Scott Bearby, vice president of legal affairs, related to ongoing legal matters.
12. **Report of the January 23 Board of Directors Meeting.** The Board of Directors approved the report of its January meeting. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

*Board of Directors chair: Eli Capilouto, University of Kentucky, Southeastern Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Amanda Conklin, Law, Policy and Governance*

*Diane Dickman, Law, Policy and Governance*

*Jenn Fraser, Law, Policy and Governance*

*Kevin Lennon, Law, Policy and Governance*

*Donald Remy, Law, Policy and Governance*

*Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance*

<b>Division I Board of Directors</b> <b>April 29, 2020, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Guy Bailey, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; Western Athletic Conference.	
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University; Faculty Athletics Representatives Association.	
Dean Bresciani, North Dakota State University; The Summit League.	
Grace Calhoun, University of Pennsylvania; The Ivy League, Division I Council.	
Eli Capilouto, University of Kentucky; Southeastern Conference.	
Morgan Chall, Cornell University; Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Rita Cheng, Northern Arizona University; Big Sky Conference.	
Julie Cromer Peoples, Ohio University; Women Leaders in College Sports.	
Jack DeGioia, Georgetown University; Big East Conference.	
Phil DiStefano, University of Colorado, Boulder; Pac-12 Conference.	
Michael Drake, The Ohio State University; Big Ten Conference.	
Phil Dubois, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Conference USA.	
Burns Hargis, Oklahoma State University; Big 12 Conference.	
Jim Harris, University of San Diego; West Coast Conference.	
Renu Khator, University of Houston; American Athletic Association.	
Ron Machtley, Bryant University; Northeast Conference.	
James Maher, Niagara University; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.	
Phil Oldham, Tennessee Technological University; Ohio Valley Conference.	
Mary Papazian, San Jose State University; Mountain West Conference.	
Taylor Reveley, Longwood University; Big South Conference.	
Denise Trauth, Texas State University; Sun Belt Conference, vice chair.	
Satish Tripathi, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York; Mid-American Conference.	
David Wilson, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.	
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Baker, University of Kentucky.	
Frank Gilliam, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Division I Presidential Forum chair.	
Ethan Good, Bowling Green State University, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Neal Smatresk, University of North Texas; Conference USA.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Amanda Conklin, Diane Dickman, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon, Donald Remy and Leeland Zeller.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Scott Bearby, Dawn Buth, Elizabeth Conte, Jon Duncan, Mark Emmert, Dan Gavitt, Brian Hainline, Jennifer Henderson, Michelle Hosick, David LaFiosca, Felicia Martin, Donald Remy, Bridget Rigney, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Naima Stevenson, Cari Van Senus, Stan Wilcox, and Bob Williams.	