



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 26, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Roadmap to Transformation.

a. Student-Athlete Holistic Model.

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors adopted the following requirements, which are part of the holistic model. The legislation is effective August 1, 2024. (*Unanimous voice vote*).

- 1) Require all schools to provide medical coverage for athletically related injuries for a minimum of two years following graduation or separation from the institution. (Currently required of autonomy conferences and others that have opted into the legislation.)
- 2) Require all schools to provide out-of-pocket medical expenses for athletically related injuries during a student-athlete's enrollment and for at least two years following graduation or separation from the institution.
- 3) Require all schools to attest to compliance with consensus-based guidance supporting student-athlete health, safety and performance (e.g., Cardiac Care Best Practices, Interassociation Mental Health Best Practices, Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist) as identified, established and maintained through policies and procedures approved by the NCAA Board of Governors.
- 4) Require all schools to attest that they provide career counseling and life skills programming that includes, at a minimum, the following topics: mental health, strength and conditioning, nutrition, name, image and likeness, financial literacy, transfer requirements, career preparation, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, and sexual violence prevention.
- 5) Require all schools to offer degree-completion funds to any student-athlete within 10 years of separation who received aid in a head count sport or received athletics aid in an equivalency sport that resulted in the student-athlete receiving the value of full tuition and fees, room and board and required course related books during any regular term of enrollment.
- 6) Require all schools to attest that they follow concussion management protocols consistent with the NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist.
- 7) Require all schools to complete a post-incident review of circumstances surrounding any catastrophic injury or death.

- 8) Require all schools to attest that they provide academic support services consistent with current NCAA legislation.
- 9) Require all schools to provide the current scholarship protections mandated for autonomy conferences.

The board discussed the need to work with the national office to assist schools in meeting new requirements.

b. Governance and Decision-Making.

- 1) Composition of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors adopted legislation to add a second student-athlete to its composition, effective August 1, 2023. The NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will nominate an additional student-athlete to serve as a voting member of the board. Of the two student-athletes on the board, at least one must be a current or former student-athlete in football or men's or women's basketball.

In addition, the Board of Directors established a consultative process to facilitate enhanced engagement with conferences that do not have a seat on the board. The consultative process will be deployed leading up to the August Board of Directors meeting. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

- 2) Division I Decision-Making Structure. The Board of Directors approved a modification to the timeline for the implementation of the revised Division I decision-making structure as recommended by the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee. The final recommendations related to governance committees, including sport management committees, will be provided to the Board of Directors in August with a January effective date. The NCAA Division I Council will consider legislative action on recommended changes to sports committees (championships committees) during its June meeting, with an August 1, 2023, effective date. Updates will be provided to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee and additional adjustments to the timeline may be made, if necessary. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

c. NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee Update. The Board of Directors received an update from the April 24 meeting of the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee, which included an update on its preliminary review of the financial impacts of the Transformation Committee recommendations.

d. Membership Mobilization and Congressional Engagement. NCAA staff provided an update on membership mobilization efforts related to future congressional engagement. A membership mobilization toolkit was developed for conference offices and was introduced to commissioners on the April 20 Conference Commissioners Association call.

- e. **Membership Expectations.** The Board of Directors received updates from the three subgroups addressing membership expectations referrals from the Transformation Committee report.
- 1) NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and Football Oversight Committee Membership Subgroup. The Membership Subgroup's main charge is to consider the Transformation Committee recommendation related to football attendance requirements, which inherently leads to a review of overall subdivisional membership requirements. The subgroup is comprised of members of NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and the Football Oversight Committee. The group has identified five areas of exploration for enhanced Football Bowl Subdivision membership requirements: 1) Financial aid; 2) Student-athlete benefits; 3) Revenues and expenses; 4) NCAA Football Championship Subdivision to FBS reclassification requirements; and 5) Updates to legislation regarding accountability for meeting membership requirements. The subgroup's recommendations will be forwarded to the council for consideration during its June meeting.
 - 2) NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Health and Safety Subgroup. The Health and Safety Subgroup was created to refine the four health and safety recommendations included in the Transformation Committee report. The subgroup is comprised of members of Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. With the adoption of the holistic model, the subgroup's work on the mental health recommendation from the Transformation Committee is complete. The Division I Board recommended that the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group consider the Transformation Committee's original recommendation when considering any future updates to the mental health best practices for athletics departments. The group will continue to refine recommendations related to: 1) Coverage of athletic activity; 2) Empowerment of the Athletics Health Care Administrator; and 3) Periodic review of mental and physical health, safety and performance support services. The subgroup's final recommendations on its three remaining referrals will be delivered to the council for consideration at its June meeting.
 - 3) NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and Education Subgroup. The charge for the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and Education Subgroup is to refine and develop legislative proposals for the Transformation Committee concepts in the following five areas: 1) Coaches' education; 2) Student-athlete education; 3) Diversity, education, inclusion and belonging; 4) Career preparation; and 5) Student-athlete survey. With adoption of the holistic model, the subgroup's work on the student-athlete education and career services referral is complete.

The subgroup is expected to deliver a final recommendation on coaches education to the council by June. Work on the remaining referrals will be completed by August.

- f. **Decentralization.** The Board of Directors received an update on the status of decentralization concepts that were referred to the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee and NCAA Division I Legislative Committee Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee and provided guidance and feedback for the subcommittee to consider in developing the concepts. The concepts were recommended by the Transformation Committee to the Board of Directors as areas to be reviewed for further legislative discussion focused on potential decentralization.
2. **Name, Image and Likeness Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on and discussed issues related to name, image and likeness. The NCAA Division I Council Working Group on Name, Image and Likeness continues to monitor the evolving NIL environment and specific issues that member institutions are facing. Specifically, the working group continues to discuss issues related to recruiting, transparency and institutional involvement in NIL activities.
3. **Transfer Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the new transfer waiver guidelines. The board encourages the council to work with national office staff to monitor those issues. The board also noted that the bar for relief in waiver requests for immediate eligibility following second or subsequent transfers should be very high.
4. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors Infractions Process Committee Update.** The Board of Directors endorsed the following recommended principles for infractions process as recommended by the Division I Board Infractions Process Committee:

The NCAA's infractions process should:
 - a. Incentivize and further reward institutions and individuals that demonstrate exemplary cooperation during an infractions case to the greatest extent possible.
 - b. Examine and develop specific recommendations that increase focus on meaningful penalties on the individuals responsible for the underlying wrongdoing.
 - c. Reserve the postseason competition ban for Level I infractions that lack exemplary institutional cooperation.
5. **NCAA Media Rights Contract.** The Board of Directors received a media landscape report and an update on the timeline and approach to the NCAA broadcast contract that includes all sports other than Division I men's basketball and men's and women's golf.

6. NCAA Division I Membership Issues.

- a. Review of request for an exception to the single-sport conference moratorium. The Board of Directors reviewed a request for an exception to the moratorium on applications for single-sport conference membership to allow the ASUN and Western Athletic Conferences (United Athletic Conference) to apply for single-sport conference membership in football.

The board denied the request, noting that the ASUN Conference/Western Athletic Conference partnership will maintain eligibility for automatic qualification to the FCS championship during the 2023-24 academic year. Although the Transformation Committee delivered its report in January, the governance structure continues to work through potential changes to membership requirements and processes. Clarity regarding those new requirements is necessary before reopening the single-sport conference application process.

The moratorium is set to expire in June 2023. The Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee will seek feedback from the relevant governance committees and the Division I Council and will make a final determination regarding the status of the moratorium.

(Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas, recused himself from the discussion and did not vote on this item.)

- b. Review of waiver request related to the FCS to FBS reclassification process. The Board of Directors reviewed the council's decision to deny James Madison University's request to waive the second year of the FCS to FBS reclassification process to allow the institution to become an active FBS member with eligibility for postseason bowl participation during the 2023-24 academic year. The board upheld the council's decision. In denying the request, the council noted that, for the health of all subdivisions, it is important to maintain clear membership standards and expectations that apply to all schools that move through the reclassification process. The council also noted the timing of the ongoing work to implement Transformation Committee outcomes, which are expected to include recommendations that will elevate membership requirements for all FBS institutions.

(Kelly Damphousse, Texas State University, recused himself from the discussion and did not vote on this item.)

7. **Division I Council Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on actions taken and issues reviewed by the Council.
8. **Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on key items and issues from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

9. **NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Update.** Due to time constraints, the Board of Directors referred its review of the most recent report from the Committee on Academics to the Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee.
10. **NCAA President's Report.** The Board of Directors received an update from President Baker regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.
11. **Board of Governors Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on issues reviewed by the Board of Governors
12. **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.
13. **Report of the January Board of Directors Meeting.** The Board of Directors approved the report of its January meeting. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

Board of Directors chair: Jere Morehead, University of Georgia, Southeastern Conference
Staff Liaisons: Amanda Conklin, Governance, Policy and Human Resources
Jenn Fraser, Governance, Policy and Human Resources
Kevin Lennon, Governance, Policy and Human Resources
Leeland Zeller, Governance, Policy and Human Resources

Division I Board of Directors April 26, 2023, Videoconference
Attendees:
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University; Faculty Athletics Representatives Association.
Janna Blais, Northwestern University; Women Leaders in College Sports.
Sean Buck, United States Naval Academy, American Athletic Conference.
Brynn Carlson, University of Missouri, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
Kelly Dampousse, Texas State University; Sun Belt Conference.
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas; ASUN Conference.
Andy Feinstein, University of Northern Colorado; Big Sky Conference.
John Fry, Drexel University; Colonial Athletic Association.
Phil Hanlon, Dartmouth College; The Ivy League
Jim Harris, University of San Diego; West Coast Conference.
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University; Big 12 Conference.
Sidney McPhee, Middle Tennessee State University; Conference USA.
Geoff Mearns, Ball State University; Mid-American Conference.
Jere Morehead (chair), University of Georgia; Southeastern Conference.
Phil Oldham, Tennessee Technological University; Ohio Valley Conference.
Ora Pescovitz, Oakland University; Horizon League.
Chris Pietruszkiewicz, University of Evansville; Missouri Valley Conference.
Darryll Pines, University of Maryland, College Park; Big Ten Conference.
Taylor Randall, University of Utah; Pac-12 Conference.
Harvey Stenger, Binghamton University; America East Conference.
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida; NCAA Division I Council.
Marlene Tromp, Boise State University; Mountain West Conference.
David Wilson, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Karen Brodtkin, Endeavor.
Andrew Demsey, Endeavor.
Hillary Mandel, Endeavor.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon and Leeland Zeller.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Troy Arthur, Charlie Baker, Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Joni Comstock, Derrick Crawford, Jon Duncan, Meghan Durham, Dan Gavitt, Brandy Hataway, David Lafiosca, Lynn Holzman, Julie Kimmons, Matt Mikrut, Mario Morris, Binh Nguyen, Natasha Reyes, Bridget Rigney, Jennifer Samble, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Cari Van Senus, Stan Wilcox, and Quintin Wright.