



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
APRIL 21, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative Action in Response to Settlement Final Approval.** Per the parameters set by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee during its April 2 videoconference and recommendations of the Implementation Committee, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors adopted emergency legislation to amend specific NCAA legislation contingent on final approval of the *House* settlement. Changes include the elimination of maximum limitations on athletics scholarships by sport, modification of existing legislation to permit schools bound by or choosing to opt-in to the settlement to provide student-athletes with additional financial benefits from a pool with defined limits, and the addition of new legislation to establish a framework for rules regulating name, image and likeness compensation from third parties. Additional legislative changes will be necessary to ensure compliance with the settlement structure. The Board of Directors, after appropriate coordination, will consider such proposals if final court approval of the settlement is granted. Comprehensive educational materials will be distributed to the membership with the timing of distribution depending, in part, on final court action. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)
2. **Review of Sports Wagering Legislation.** The Board of Directors reviewed recommendations from the Administrative Committee related to the review of sports wagering legislation. The board directed the NCAA Division I Council to adopt legislation to deregulate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports and directed the NCAA staff to develop concepts for the appropriate committees to consider regarding a safe harbor, limited immunity or reduced penalties for student-athletes who engage in sports wagering but seek help for problem gambling. The council will review the board's recommendation during its May 15 meeting and could adopt expedited legislation during its June 24-25 meeting. [*For: 21 (Blais, Boyce, Bravman, Cozad, Damphousse, Davis, Emmanuel, Livingstone, Mearns, Noland, Pietruszkiewicz, Pines, Poser, Reed, Rogers, Ross, Sandoval, Sands, Stenger, Taylor, Whitman), Opposed: 1 (Bruzina), Abstentions: 0, Not Present: 2 (Khosla, McPhee).*]
3. **NCAA Division I Decision-Making Working Group Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the progress of the Division I Decision-Making Working Group. The working group is expected to deliver final recommendations for consideration by the board during its June 23 meeting. The working group's draft concepts include a flatter governance structure, streamlined committees, faster decision-making, increased student-athlete presence and innovative changes. The revised structure would be flexible to address the unique needs of Division I stakeholders. The working group will continue to discuss additional information during an upcoming May meeting. The board charged the NCAA staff with a membership engagement initiative to begin soliciting feedback from stakeholders on the preliminary concepts. The board emphasized the importance of membership feedback and noted that the solicitation for feedback does not equate to board support for the conceptual framework.
4. **Conference Membership Requirements Discussion.** The Board of Directors continued its review of conference membership requirements in light of the evolving landscape in higher education and intercollegiate athletics.

The board previously approved the following principles for the review:

- Proposed changes to conference membership requirements should provide institutions with appropriate flexibility to be aligned with like institutions in the post-settlement environment.
- Proposed changes to conference membership requirements should not increase the number of Division I multisport conferences.
- Proposed changes should reflect a strategic approach to membership growth and sustainability in Division I.

The board discussed preliminary concepts and directed the NCAA staff to share the concepts with the broader membership for feedback with possible action by the board in June.

5. **Congressional Engagement Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on congressional engagement efforts.
6. **NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update from the April 17 Board of Directors Finance Committee meeting.
7. **Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on recent activities of the Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
8. **NCAA President's Report.** The Board of Directors received an update from President Baker regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.
9. **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.
10. **Board of Directors Reports.** The Board of Directors approved the report of its December 23, 2024, electronic action and the report of its January 16 meeting. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

*Board of Directors chair:* Tim Sands, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Atlantic Coast Conference

*Staff Liaisons:* Geoff Bentzel, Division I Governance  
Amanda Conklin, Division I Governance  
Jenn Fraser, Division I Governance  
Leeland Zeller, Division I Governance

Report of the Division I Board of Directors

April 21, 2025, Videoconference

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Division I Board of Directors April 21, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Janna Blais, Northwestern University; Women Leaders in College Sports.	
Glenn Boyce, University of Mississippi; Southeastern Conference.	
John Bravman, Bucknell University; Patriot League.	
Pam Bruzina, University of Missouri, Columbia; FARA.	
Ashley Cozad, University of North Florida; Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Kelly Dampousse, Texas State University; Sun Belt Conference.	
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas; ASUN Conference.	
Josh Emmanuel, University of Incarnate Word; Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Pradeep Khosla, University of California, San Diego; Big West Conference.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University; Big 12 Conference.	
Sidney McPhee, Middle Tennessee State University; Conference USA.	
Geoff Mearns, Ball State University; Mid-American Conference.	
Brian Noland, East Tennessee State University; Southern Conference.	
Chris Pietruszkiewicz, University of Evansville; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Darryll Pines, University of Maryland, College Park; Big Ten Conference.	
Susan Poser, Hofstra University; Coastal Athletic Association.	
Mark Reed, Loyola University Chicago; Atlantic 10 Conference.	
Philip Rogers, East Carolina University; American Athletic Conference.	
Quinton Ross, Alabama State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.	
Brian Sandoval, University of Nevada, Reno; Mountain West Conference.	
Tim Sands, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Harvey Stenger, Binghamton University; America East Conference.	
Jaime Taylor, Lamar University; Southland Conference.	
Josh Whitman, University of Illinois; Division I Council.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Meredith Page, Radford University, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Jessica Presnall, Big 12 Conference.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Geoff Bentzel, Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser and Leeland Zeller.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Charlie Baker, Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Dawn Buth, Deena Casiero, Jon Duncan, Michele Forte-Osborne, Haydyn Gibson, Terri Steeb Gronau, Jennifer Henderson, Brian Higgins, Ethan Hite, Lynn Holzman, Katie Koenig, Kevin Lennon, Felicia Martin, Mario Morris, Stephanie Quigg, Bridget Rigney, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Lynda Tealer, Wendy Walters, Stan Wilcox and Meghan Wright.	