



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JANUARY 12, 2023, MEETING**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Final Report from the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee.** The NCAA Division I Board of Directors received the final report from the Division I Transformation Committee, which includes recommendations related to a holistic student-athlete benefits model, membership expectations, championships, and the decision-making governance structure. The Division I Board also received an update regarding the strategic communications plan that will be implemented in the coming months.
  - a. **Holistic Student-Athlete Benefits Model.** The Division I Board endorsed the following key commitments in the holistic student-athlete benefits model. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)
    - (1) Require all Division I schools to provide medical coverage for athletically related injuries for a minimum of two years following graduation or completion of athletics experience. This would also include assistance for out-of-pocket medical expenses during a student-athlete's playing career. Of note, a national coverage model may need to be created to assist schools with defraying costs.
    - (2) Require all Division I schools to commit to a consensus-based care, education and services model. Each school's athletics health care administrator would be required to attest to the institution's compliance with: Cardiac Care Best Practices, Interassociation Mental Health Best Practices, NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol, Independent Medical Care Best Practices, Standards for Preventing Catastrophic Injury, and Illness in the Collegiate Athlete.
    - (3) Require schools to complete a post-incident review of circumstances surrounding any catastrophic injury or death occurring within its athletics program. The review must occur within one year of the incident.
    - (4) Require schools to offer degree completion funds within 10 years of separation to any student-athlete who was on full scholarship.
    - (5) Require schools to attest that they provide academic support services to current student-athletes consistent with current NCAA legislation.
    - (6) Require all schools to provide current scholarship protections mandated for autonomy schools.
    - (7) Require schools to attest that they provide career counseling and life skills programming to student-athletes that include, at minimum, the following modules: mental health; strength and conditioning; nutrition; NIL; financial literacy; transfer requirements; career preparation; diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging; and campus sexual violence prevention.

- (8) Create a new Division I governance structure that will include increased participation by student-athletes at the campus, conference and national levels. In collaboration with NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, there will be an emphasis on including voices from student-athletes in revenue-producing sports.

The Division I Board directed that legislation be developed consistent with the commitments. Legislation will be developed as directed in the key commitments or may be modified based on the work of the Division I Board or additional work or modifications referred to the NCAA Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action. Additional commitments may be adopted in the future based on the work of the subcommittee.

- b. **Membership Expectations.** The Division I Board took the following actions related to membership expectations. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

- (1) **Student-Athlete Voice in Decision Making.** The Board of Directors approved the following institutional and conference requirements to enhance the student-athlete voice in decision-making in concept and directed that legislation be developed for legislative action by April 2023:

At the conference level:

- Require the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee oversight by a senior staff member.
- Require establishment of a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee executive team.
- Require conferences to have at least one student-athlete serving on any ad hoc or conference committee established to address issues directly impacting student-athletes.
- Recommend that conferences establish sport-specific student-athlete engagement and advocacy groups in, at a minimum, football (where applicable) and men's and women's basketball.

At the institutional level:

- Require the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee oversight by a senior staff member.
- Require establishment of a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee executive team.
- Require institutions to have at least one student-athlete serving on any ad hoc or athletics department committee established to address issues directly impacting student-athletes.

The Board of Directors also approved the following institutional and conference requirements to enhance the student-athlete voice in decision-making in concept and directed the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the NCAA Division I Council to discuss and develop concepts for legislative action related to conference concepts by August 2023 and institutional concepts by April 2023:

At the conference level:

- Student-athlete involvement and engagement on conference sport committees.
- Student-athlete involvement and engagement with the primary operational level committee(s) at the conference level.

At the institutional level:

- Student-athlete involvement and engagement on the primary athletics department operational-level committee(s).
- Student-athlete involvement and engagement at coaches meetings.

(2) **Health and Safety — Empowerment of Athletics Health Care Administrators.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations related to the empowerment of the athletics health care administrator in concept and directed that the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023:

- (a) Empower the athletics health care administrator to effectuate Association physical and mental health, safety and performance guidance, policy, legislation, and other requirements.
- (b) Consider ways to formalize guidance in the Athletics Health Care Administrator Handbook to further empower the athletics health care administrator, which may include setting consistent or standardized divisional expectations and/or requirements, developing training and education, designating specific responsibilities (see above), and mandating appropriate staffing and reporting structures.
- (c) Promote the importance of or seek partnership for the creation of an athletics health care administrator professional organization to build culture and resources and legitimize the responsibilities of the designation.

- (3) **Academic Support.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to academic support in concept and directed that the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics develop recommendations for action by May 2023.
- Consideration of an NCAA Division I Academic Progress Rate score that could be used as a benchmark for meeting membership expectations in the areas of academic support.
- (4) **Health and Safety – Mental Health.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to health and safety in concept and directed that the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023.
- Establishment of a membership expectation that Division I institutions must provide a pathway for full-time clinical services of a licensed mental health professional dedicated to serving student-athletes to meet the mental health services membership expectation.
- (5) **Health and Safety – Review of Physical and Mental Health, Safety and Performance Support Services.** The Division I Board approved the following recommendation related to health and safety and directed the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023.
- Require schools to complete a regular review of physical and mental health, safety and performance support services, which may be overseen or facilitated by a conference office.
- (6) **Health and Safety – Coverage of Athletic Activity.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations related to health and safety in concept and directed the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023.
- (a) Medical personnel with training in the diagnosis, treatment and initial management of acute concussion and other injuries must be “present” at all NCAA practices and competitions in the following contact/collision sports: acrobatics and tumbling; Alpine skiing; baseball; basketball; beach volleyball; diving; equestrian; field hockey; football; gymnastics; ice hockey; lacrosse; pole vault; rugby; soccer; softball; volleyball; water polo; and wrestling.

- (b) Medical personnel with training in the diagnosis, treatment and initial management of acute concussion and other injuries must be “available” at all NCAA practices and competitions in all sports not listed above.
- (7) **Compliance.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations related to compliance and directed the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023.
- (a) Establish a periodic audit requirement (perhaps once every three to four years) for institutional compliance operations to confirm that compliance programs are appropriately serving and supporting student-athletes.
- (b) Establish education requirements for individuals who support the athletics compliance program, but are housed outside of athletics (e.g., registrar, admissions, financial aid) due to the important role they play in a shared responsibility model.
- (c) Require these critical staff members to attest on a periodic basis that they are adhering to established best practices related to their compliance duties.
- (8) **Career Preparation.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to career preparation in concept and directed the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Experience Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023.
- Establish an annual attestation requirement for institutions regarding career services availability for current and former student-athletes.
- (9) **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations related to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in concept and directed the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to develop legislative recommendations in consultation with the NCAA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committees for action by August 2023.
- (a) Consider whether it’s appropriate to establish a membership expectation that an institution’s athletics department must employ at least one full-time staff member, with appropriate training, whose primary focus is on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.
- (b) The committee also supports further discussion about establishing additional membership requirements in this area.

(10) **Student-Athlete Survey.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to student-athlete surveys and directed the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by August 2023.

- Require institutions to administer an NCAA-managed survey to student-athletes about their experience in the categories outlined and regularly examine for areas of improvement when the institution is not meeting recommended benchmarks.

(11) **Education and Programming – Student-Athletes.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to education and programming and directed the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023. The Board also directed NCAA staff to explore the development of national office resources to assist institutions.

- Require an institution to annually attest that it provides student-athletes with access to education and programming in the following areas:
  - Mental health.
  - Strength and conditioning.
  - Nutrition.
  - Name, image and likeness.
  - Financial literacy.
  - Transfer requirements.
  - Career preparation.
  - Diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.
  - Campus sexual violence prevention.

(12) **Education and Programming – Coaches.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to education and programming and directed the Strategic Vision and Planning Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023. The Division I Board also directed NCAA staff to explore the development of national office resources to assist institutions.

- Require an institution to annually attest that its coaches have completed education and programming in the following areas:
  - Mental health.
  - Strength and conditioning.
  - Nutrition.
  - Name, image and likeness.

- Financial literacy.
- Transfer requirements.
- Career preparation.
- Diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.
- Campus sexual violence prevention.

(13) **Football Attendance Requirement.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations related to football attendance requirements and directed the Division I Council and the NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee to develop legislative recommendations for action by June 2023.

- (a) Reconsider and update of Football Bowl Subdivision membership requirements to determine appropriateness of maintaining the current attendance standard while focusing on other elements that more directly link the student-athlete experience to expectations for FBS membership criteria.
- (b) This review should involve experts and key leaders from the FBS membership and focus on establishing more effective distinctions between the football subdivisions.

(14) **Financial Aid Minimums.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to financial aid minimums and directed the Division I Council to consider and potentially develop legislative recommendations for action by October 2023.

- Review financial aid minimums once the impact of changes in other areas of the Transformation Committee's review become known.

c. **Championships.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations related to championships. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)

(1) **Bracket Composition.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation related to bracket composition in concept and directed championships and oversight committees review operational considerations for action by June 2023. The Division I Board also directed the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee review budget implications.

- Division I championships should be composed in a manner that reflects the highest level of bracket composition and quality of competition, including seeding at least 50% of teams.

(2) **Access Ratio of 25%.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation in concept and directed sport committees and the Board Finance Committee to review budget implications for action by January 2024.

- (a) For Division I championship team sports sponsored by more than 200 institutions, the appropriate committees should fully consider how to accommodate access for 25% of active member institutions in good standing with Division I membership requirements.
  - (b) Their considerations should account for impacts on the timing of the postseason, the total length of the postseason, necessary format changes, broadcast and other partners, budget resources and host entity event.
- (3) **Enhanced Focus on Revenue Generation.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation in concept and directed the NCAA executive staff to consider the recommendation as part of upcoming/future contact negotiations.
- To further modernize, elevate and, in some cases, finance the enhanced Division I championship experience each sport should be evaluated for revenue generation potential, including additional sport-specific sponsorship and partnership opportunities.
- (4) **Elevated Championships Travel Experience.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation in concept and directed the Division I Board Finance Committee to review budget implications for action by June 2023.
- Review travel policies for Division I and national collegiate championships to identify ways to elevate the travel experience for participants while maintaining operational controls, which allow for consistent implementation across sports and genders, within budget parameters.
- (5) **Increased Championships Budget.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation in concept and directed the Division I Board Finance Committee and the NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee to consider the recommendation for action by June 2023.
- Consider an increase to the championships budget that accommodates these the expansion of championships access, ensures the highest level of bracket composition and elevates the travel experience for student-athletes.
- (6) **Revenue Distribution.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendation in concept and directed the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee to develop recommendations for action by August 2023.

- Evaluate the Division I revenue distribution program to consider models that reflect contemporary Division I values and account for athletic performance in more sports than men's basketball. In developing modifications, consideration should be given to the following: (a) implementation timeline; (b) gender equity; and (c) commitment to broad-based sports sponsorship.
- d. **Governance and Decision-Making.** The Board of Directors took the following actions. *[For: 22 (Beggs, Blais, Buck, Carlson, Damphousse, Davis, Fry, Harris, Livingstone, McPhee, Mearns, Morehead, Oldham, Paxson, Pietruszkiewicz, Pines, Randall, Stenger, Tealer, Tromp, Wilson, Woodson), Opposed: 1 (Pescovitz), Abstentions: 0.]*
- (1) **Division I Presidential Forum.** The Board of Directors adopted emergency legislation to eliminate the Division I Presidential Forum.
  - (2) **Division I Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors approved the recommendation to examine the composition of the Board of Directors.
  - (3) **Responsive Decision-Making Structure.** The Board of Directors approved the following recommendations in concept and directed the NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee to gather feedback, develop legislative recommendations, and manage the committee appointments for action by June 2023:
    - (a) Establish a new sport oversight model for decision-making.
    - (b) Rename the current Division I Council as the NCAA Division I Oversight Council, with amended responsibilities and a new substructure.
    - (c) Establish Oversight Council subcommittees. Initial subcommittees will include membership, nominating, nonacademic eligibility and legislation/interpretations.
    - (d) Decisions should be pushed as far down in the structure as is possible and to responsible committees that are composed of engaged and experienced representatives with knowledge of the sport.
    - (e) Appropriately balance necessary and important checks in the system without being overly bureaucratic.
- e. **Decentralization.** The Board of Directors referred the following items to the Division I Council for consideration and potential development of legislation. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

- (1) **Official and Unofficial Visits.** Additional consideration by the Division I Council to occur in April 2023.
  - (2) **Playing and Practice Seasons (summer athletic activities, time demands, outside competition).** Consideration and potential development of legislation for legislative action by October 2023.
  - (3) **Amateurism and Athletics Eligibility – Agents.** Review the use of agents by student-athletes and prospective student-athletes in pursuing professional and intercollegiate athletics opportunities. Consideration and potential development of legislation for action by October 2023.
  - (4) **Amateurism and Athletics Eligibility – Professional Opportunities – Tryouts, Practice and Competition – Preenrollment and Post-enrollment.** Review legislation regarding professional opportunities for student-athletes – tryouts, practice and competition – preenrollment and post-enrollment. Consideration and potential development of legislation for action by October 2023.
  - (5) **Amateurism and Athletics Eligibility – Professional Drafts.** Review legislation regarding professional drafts. Consideration and potential development of legislation for action by October 2023.
  - (6) **Amateurism and Athletics Eligibility – Athletics Eligibility.** Review other athletics eligibility rules, such as those related to delayed enrollment. Consideration and potential development of legislation for action by October 2023.
  - (7) **Transition From Team Financial Aid Limits to Roster Size Limits.** Review the concept of eliminating the maximum institutional grant-in-aid limitations by sport and allowing national rules in this area to focus on the number of student-athletes participating in countable athletically related activities during an institution's playing season. Consideration and potential development of legislation for legislative action by October 2023.
2. **Gender Equity Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the progress on recommendations included in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 gender equity reports. Additional information is available [here](#).
  3. **NCAA President's Report.** The Board of Directors received an update from President Emmert regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I. In addition, the Division I Board was introduced to incoming NCAA President Charlie Baker.
  4. **Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update from the January 4 meeting of the Board of Directors Finance Committee. The

Finance Committee approved funding for the addition of a Division I Women's Basketball 32-team postseason tournament. The tournament is set to begin in 2024.

5. **NCAA Division I Board Infractions Process Committee Update.** The Board of Directors received an update regarding recent meetings of the Infractions Process Committee.
6. **Division I Council Update.** The Board of Directors received an update regarding the January 11 Division I Council meeting, including a summary of legislation that was adopted.
7. **NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Update.** National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee chair, Brynn Carlson, provided the Board of Directors with an update on key items and issues.
8. **NCAA Division I Committee on Academics Update.** The Board of Directors received an update on the work of the Committee on Academics from committee chair, Robert Davies.
9. **NCAA Board of Governors Update.** The Board of Directors received an update from the Board of Governors' January 11 meeting.
10. **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.
11. **Report of the October 25-26 Board of Directors Meeting.** The Board of Directors approved the report of its October 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*

<b>Division I Board of Directors January 12, 2023, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
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.
John Fry, Drexel University; Colonial Athletic Association.
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.
Christina Paxson, Brown University; The Ivy League.
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.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Andy Feinstein, University of Northern Colorado; Big Sky Conference.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Laurence Alexander, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff; Division I Presidential Forum chair.
Julie Cromer, University of Ohio, Division I Transformation Committee.
Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference, Division I Transformation Committee.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon and Leeland Zeller.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Charlie Baker, Scott Bearby, Lydia Bell, Joni Comstock, Derrick Crawford, Jon Duncan, Meghan Durham, Mark Emmert, Dan Gavitt, Lynn Holzman, Brittney Jackson, David LaFiosca, Felicia Martin, Mario Morris, Bridget Rigney, Dave Schnase, Cari Van Senus, and Stan Wilcox.