



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
AUGUST 21, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. Transition core benefits of National Letter of Intent program into NCAA legislation and institutional athletics aid agreements.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division I Council adopt expedited to transition the core benefits of the National Letter of Intent (NLI) program into NCAA legislation and institutional athletics aid agreements. This legislative recommendation is contingent on the Division I Collegiate Commissioner's Association (CCA) recommending that the NLI program be discontinued during its September 2024 meeting. Specifically, the legislation would:
 - (a) Eliminate legislative references to the National Letter of Intent program and, as appropriate, replace references to the National Letter of Intent with references to an institutional financial aid agreement;
 - (b) Establish periods for signing institutional financial aid agreements based on the formula previously used to determine the NLI signing dates and specify that an institution may not participate in an institutional or conference athletics letter-of-intent program or issue an institutional or conference financial aid agreement that involves a signing date other than those established;
 - (c) Specify that an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall not communicate or make contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of athletics aid with another NCAA Division I or Division II institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly;
 - (d) Specify that in-person on- or off-campus contact with a prospective student-athlete on the day the prospective student-athlete signs a financial aid agreement or other commitment to attend the institution or attendance at activities related to the signing of a commitment to attend the institution shall be prohibited; and
 - (e) Specify that a prospective student-athlete who signs an institutional financial aid agreement in a sport other than football prior to the initial signing date is ineligible for competition in football during the

individual's first year of enrollment at the institution and shall be charged one season of competition in football.

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, the National Letter of Intent program and the benefits and implications for a prospective student-athlete who chooses to sign an NLI are set by policy determined by the Collegiate Commissioners Association. In June, the CCA's NLI Policy and Review Committee recommended the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee develop a legislative framework that could transition the core benefits of the NLI (e.g., celebratory signing, signing periods, recruiting ban) into NCAA legislation before the NLI signing periods begin in November 2024. Incorporating the benefits of the NLI program into legislative implications of signing an institutional financial aid agreement is intended to add more clarity and efficiency to the commitment process for all prospective student-athletes, including those from other four-year institutions. The recommended legislative framework would not incorporate NLI penalties, including the basic that applies if an individual who signs an NLI enrolls at another institution that participates in the NLI program.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None. Existing applications (Institutional Request List and NCAA Transfer Portal) will be used to indicate that a prospective student-athlete has signed a written offer of athletics aid during a permissible signing period.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommended legislative framework is intended to provide reasonable direction for student-athletes to enjoy the benefits of receiving an athletic scholarship without penalizing their future college decisions.

b. Processing requirements for sports wagering violations.

- (1) Recommendation. That the council adopt expedited legislation to specify that violations of NCAA Bylaw 10.3 involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same level for the involved individual and the institution; and to specify that in all other instances, violations of Bylaw 10.3 may be processed at different levels for the involved individual and institution.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation holds an institution responsible for violations committed by staff members at the same level regardless of the

circumstances. Recently, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Infractions Process Committee and the Division I Committee on Infractions recommended strategies be considered to help focus the resources of the infractions process on the types of sports wagering cases that impact the integrity of intercollegiate athletics. This proposal would address that desire for efficiency and accountability by allowing an institution's portion of a sports wagering case to be processed at a lower level than an individual's portion, provided certain factors are met. The recommended processing changes would not impact or supersede the ongoing membership review of the scope of NCAA sports wagering legislation and would apply to the current rules or any amended framework.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. Helps the infractions process better allocate the resources used to process sports wagering cases.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of Proposals in the October 2024 Legislative Cycle.** The Legislative Committee reviewed and received updates on the proposals in the October 2024 council-governance legislative cycle.
2. **Update on the Division I Student-Athlete Eligibility Review.** The Legislative Committee reviewed and provided initial feedback on the student-athlete eligibility-impacting rules that the Division I Council will review during the first phase of a comprehensive review. The committee supports several concepts currently under development and will continue to assist with the review, as requested, during future meetings.
3. **NCAA Division I Interpretations Committee Report.** The Legislative Committee received two reports from the Interpretations Committee and approved an update to an official interpretation (Reference 08/11/2017, Item 2), as recommended.
4. **Approval of the July 24 Legislative Committee Report.** The Legislative Committee approved the report of its July 24 meeting.

Committee Chair: Doug Knuth, Southern Utah University

Staff Liaisons: Emily Capehart, Academic and Membership Affairs
Leeland Zeller, Division I Governance

Report of the Division I Legislative Committee

August 21, 2024, Videoconference

Page No. 4

NCAA Division I Legislative Committee August 21, 2024, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Brady Barke, Southeast Missouri State University.	
Rick Christensen, NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement chair.	
Brad Corbin, Washington State University.	
Stephen Corder, University of Detroit Mercy.	
Jon Fagg, Division I Committee on Academics.	
Ellen Ferris, American Athletic Conference.	
Jessica Kumke, Division I Committee on Academics.	
Stephen LaPorta, NCAA Division I Committee for Legislative Relief chair.	
Julie Patridge, Southern Illinois University of Carbondale.	
Braeden Pratt, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Thomas Samual, Southland Conference.	
Malone Silver, Jackson State University.	
Daryl Simpson, Middle Tennessee State University.	
Kiley Strong, University of Washington.	
Molly Sullivan, Butler University.	
Absentees:	
Matt Boyer, Southeastern Conference and Doug Knuth, Southern Utah University.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Emily Capehart and Leeland Zeller.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Brynna Barnhart, Geoff Bentzel, Jon Duncan, Brandy Hataway, Jennifer Henderson, Mike Massa, Karen Metzger, Shelby Sonnefeldt, and Jared Tidemann.	