



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JULY 13-15, 2018, MEETING**

**KEY ITEMS.**

1. **Early recruitment.** NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee provided feedback on the following legislative concepts from the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Experience Committee:
  - a. Timing of recruiting communications and contacts. The committee reviewed both a uniform approach and tiered approach to the start date for official and unofficial visits, recruiting communications, verbal offers of athletics aid and off-campus contacts as two options for consideration. The committee supported the tiered approach to recruiting interactions, with June 15 prior to a prospective student-athlete's junior year in high school as the start date for recruiting communications; and September 1 at the beginning of a PSA's junior year in high school as the start date for official visits, unofficial visits, verbal offers of athletics aid and off-campus contacts.
  - b. Off-campus contact on a day of competition. The committee discussed several concepts regarding off-campus contact with PSAs and parents of PSAs on a day of competition. Specifically, the committee supported permitting some contact with a PSA and the PSA's parents on a day of competition; however, that contact should be restricted in some manner to protect the PSA and respect the competition in which he or she is engaging. The committee also supported consideration for restricting contact on a day of competition unless the PSA initiates the conversation with coaching staff.
  - c. Definition of a PSA. The committee supported the current definition of a PSA as an individual who has started ninth grade. Further, the committee supported the current expanded definition of a PSA in the sports of basketball and softball, who have identified issues with the definition within specific areas of recruiting legislation (e.g., camps and clinics, tryouts).
  - d. Travel expenses for parents during official visits. The committee supported permitting institutions the option to pay the actual round-trip costs for a PSA's parents/legal guardians or family members (up to two people) to accompany the PSA on his or her official visit for all sports. The committee noted the importance of allowing PSA the opportunity for their parents/legal guardians or family members to be present when taking an official visit and making the important decision of choosing a collegiate institution.
2. **Transfer discussion.** The committee discussed the new transfer legislation and transfer process. Specifically, it discussed the importance of educating student-athletes about the new legislation and process to ensure that student-athletes are fully informed of the

implications of the new legislation and how to best work through the transfer process. Additionally, the committee received an update regarding the new steps in the transfer discussion, including a review of current legislation regarding immediate eligibility upon transfer.

**3. Proposal No. 2017-17 and seasons-of-competition models.** The committee discussed NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2017-17 and provided feedback regarding whether the criteria for determining a season of competition in Proposal No. 2017-17 should be expanded to other sports and/or whether a new season-of-competition and period-of-eligibility model should be considered. Specifically, the committee provided the following feedback:

- a. General support for uniform legislation across all sports to permit a student-athlete to compete in a specific number of contests/dates of competition during a season, without triggering use of a season of competition, to provide increased competition opportunities.
- b. Interest in exploring additional limitations of the exception to triggering use of a season of competition, including limitations based on competition in nonconference competition, regular season competition, and/or consecutive competition.
- c. Interest in exploring a new model for all sports to allow student-athletes to compete in five seasons of competition within a five-year period of eligibility.
- d. Interest in exploring additional educational opportunities that may be available to student-athletes who have progressed through their undergraduate degrees with athletics eligibility remaining in the event a new five-year model is adopted.
- e. Suggested engaging and obtaining feedback from the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports given the potential increase in the number of contests/dates of competition in which a student-athlete may compete during his or her athletics career.
- f. Suggested engaging and obtaining feedback from coaches' associations regarding the appropriate number of contests/dates of competition in recognition of the differences across sports.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **NCAA guest speakers.** The committee welcomed several guest speakers from the NCAA national office staff:
  - a. Jennifer Fraser, director of Division I governance, provided an update on the work of the eight topical working groups from the Commission on College Basketball.
  - b. Scott Bearby, vice president and general counsel, provided an update regarding current litigation involving the Association.
  - c. Derrick Crawford, managing director of enforcement, shared information about the role of the NCAA enforcement staff and available resources regarding the enforcement process.
  - d. Amy Dunham, managing director of strategic communications; and Andrea Farmer, associate director of strategic communications provided an update on national office initiatives related to ongoing student-athlete engagement. The committee reviewed results from a research study conducted by the NCAA communications staff regarding information and resources that student-athletes would find beneficial. Additionally, the committee reviewed a pilot program that included a welcome kit for incoming student-athletes with various resources and information as they begin their intercollegiate athletics career.
  - e. Brian Hainline, chief medical officer; LaGwyn Durden, director of law, policy and governance; and Dawn Buth, associate director of law, policy and governance shared information regarding the strategic priorities of the NCAA Sports Science Institute, including a continuing focus on mental health awareness.
  - f. Felicia Martin, vice president of the eligibility center, provided an update regarding recent changes within the NCAA Eligibility Center and solicited feedback from the committee on the pre-enrollment academic and amateurism process.
2. **NCAA Division I Council Transfer Working Group update.** Justin Sell, Division I Council representative, provided an update regarding the work of the Transfer Working Group, the guiding principles for further discussion and topics for further exploration.
3. **Diversity and inclusion social media campaign.** The committee provided feedback on the diversity and inclusion social media campaign created by the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee to raise awareness about and encourage positive interactions around diversity and inclusion in college sports. SAAC requested the campaign be moved to later in the academic year to allow adequate time for planning and budgeting on individual campuses.

4. **Autonomy conference update.** SAAC's student-athletes also serving as autonomy conference voting members updated the group regarding their April meeting. The committee discussed ways to continue to engage with the autonomy student-athlete representatives.
5. **Discuss SAAC priorities for 2018-19 academic year.** The committee reviewed its priorities for the 2018-19 academic year, as identified at the April 2018 strategic planning meeting.
6. **Discuss SAAC educational initiatives.** The committee discussed various educational initiatives that have been a priority to Division I SAAC and supported the creation of specific educational documents specific to transfer legislation, gambling and sports wagering and student-athlete health and well-being.
7. **Division I and Association-wide committee reports.** The committee received updates from the Division I and Association-wide committees on which SAAC members serve as well as convention panels on which SAAC members participated.
8. **Activity trackers.** The committee discussed the increased use of activity trackers and other wearable technology and noted the benefits of such technology to enhance student-athlete performance. However, the committee discussed the need to continue monitoring the use and impact of activity trackers given the personal information and data being collected through the technologies and the concern that tracking student-athlete activity could have implications as it relates to countable athletically related activities.
9. **Student-athlete safety.** The committee noted that student-athlete safety is one of the strategic areas of emphasis for the NCAA Division I Board of Directors and it will continue to discuss this issue moving forward.
10. **Review of SAAC policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed its policies and procedures.
11. **Review student-athlete legislative feedback process.** The committee reviewed the timeline for student-athletes to provide feedback on the proposed legislation in the 2017-18 legislative cycle.
12. **SAAC project teams.** The committee identified responsibilities and initiatives for the social media and student-athlete engagement project teams and created a third project team responsible for education initiatives. Further, the committee identified specific SAAC members who will serve on each project team.
13. **Team impact.** Amy VanRyn from Team IMPACT spoke with the committee about continued partnership with Division I institutions.

**14. Other business.** The committee discussed financial aid limits in equivalency sports and the impact of institutional need-based aid on the limits. It will continue to monitor issues for student-athletes in equivalency sports and requested NCAA staff provide educational information regarding financial aid when appropriate.

**15. Future meeting schedule.**

- a. September 29-30, 2018, Indianapolis.
- b. January 23-26, 2019, Orlando, Florida (In conjunction with NCAA Convention).

*Committee Chair:* Noah Knight, University of Missouri-Kansas City

*Committee Co-Vice-Chairs:* Nicholas Clark, Coastal Carolina University

Enna Selmanovic, University of Cincinnati

*Staff Liaisons:* Stephanie Grace, Academic and Membership Affairs

Marissa Robinson, Leadership Development

Danielle Ghiloni Walter, Academic and Membership Affairs

Quintin Wright, Academic and Membership Affairs

<b>NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee July 13-15, 2018, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Vedika Anand, Wagner College.	
Allazia Blockton, Marquette University.	
Hannah Buck, Santa Clara University.	
Amanda Carroll, Florida Gulf Coast University.	
Nicholas Clark, Coastal Carolina University.	
Christine Copper, Faculty Athletic Representative Association Representative.	
Morgan Chall, Cornell University.	
Elizabeth Conte, University of North Carolina Asheville.	
Alicia Cooperman, James Madison University.	
Christian Ellsworth, University of Northern Iowa.	
Dylan Gladney, Prairie View A&M University.	
Ethan Good, Bowling Green State University.	
Ross Hammond, Wofford College.	
Jenny Haskell, Northwestern University (alternate).	

Ellie Ivancich, Belmont University.
Khadejah Jackson, University of Oregon.
Noah Knight, University of Missouri-Kansas City.
Ava Lawson, Northern Kentucky University.
Caroline Lee, Southeastern Louisiana University.
Shelby Lee, University of California, Irvine.
Justice Littrell, University of Northern Colorado.
Harrison Martingayle, Louisiana State University.
Grace McGuire, Utah State University.
Nicole Mendes, University of Oklahoma.
Millicent Micho, Duquesne University.
Jacob Milton, Norfolk State University.
Chase Pagani, Colgate University.
Samuel Perelman, Old Dominion University.
Justin Sell, Division I Council Representative.
Enna Selmanovic, University of Cincinnati.
Christopher Skelly, University of Massachusetts Lowell.
Thomas Stuart, Manhattan College.
Jaila Tolbert, Virginia Tech University.
Alex Woodward, University of Nebraska Omaha.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Tommy Doles, Northwestern University.
Carla Wilson, University of Missouri-Kansas City.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Melissa Eggleston, TeamWorks.
Darien Lombardi, TeamWorks.
Chris Thiele, TeamWorks.
Amy VanRyn, Team IMPACT.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Stephanie Grace, Marissa Robinson, Scotty Thurman, Danielle Ghiloni Walter and Quintin Wright.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Scott Bearby, Dawn Buth, Erik Christianson, Derrick Crawford, Amy Dunham, LaGwyn Durden, Andrea Farmer, Jennifer Fraser, Brian Hainline, Barrington Huntley and Felicia Martin.