

Division I Transformation Committee Meeting Reports | Tuesday, March 8

This month, as the buzz of March Madness begins to build, it's clearer than ever that our committee's role is to provide more support for today's student-athletes while ensuring continued high-quality athletic competitions for fans, institutions, and student-athletes alike. They depend on us to transform Division I athletics to meet the needs of today's modern student-athlete, and we're committed to these efforts. At the end of the day, an elevated student-athlete experience is at the core of all we're hoping to achieve.

Over the past several weeks, our Committee has examined different potential models as it relates to student-athlete support. We know student-athletes receive a great many benefits from their sport, teams, and schools, and we want to preserve each institution's flexibility while also establishing consistent minimum criteria for student-athlete support. We're assessing which models will best empower DI institutions to prioritize student-athlete support in a way that is fair, equitable, and dynamic.

At the same time, we've tasked subcommittee members with streamlining and updating our rulebook, in areas like transfers and infractions, and to consider certain minimum standards for DI membership. Recommendations in these areas are expected in April.

As the NCAA tournament continues this month, we're continuing to solicit feedback from an array of stakeholders. Your inputs matter, and we look forward to hearing them. Thank you for your ongoing support and participation.

Greg Sankey and Julie Cromer, co-chairs of the Division I Transformation Committee



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 15, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

1. Assessment of current Division I rules and regulations.

- Committee Charge. The Transformation Committee finalized the following charge to the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee. The Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee will be asked to provide an initial report and recommendations within 60-days of receipt of its charge.

“To facilitate the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee’s desire to meet aggressive timelines and involve appropriate subject-matter experts, the committee charges the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee with reviewing existing rules to determine if the regulation is necessary and regulated at the appropriate level (division, subdivision, conference or campus).”

- Principles. In fulfilling its charge, the Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee should prioritize the following principles.
 - a. Academics must remain foundational to the Division I model.
 - b. Regulation should support and prioritize the needs of the 21st century student-athlete.
 - c. Consider the current litigation environment.
 - d. Minimize administrative burden and prioritize high-quality national and interconference athletics competition.
- Work Plan. The Transformation Committee noted that it will be necessary to supplement the composition of the Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee with Transformation Committee members and other experts to support the ambitious timeline and scope of its review. The Transformation Committee co-chairs will work with staff to finalize a work plan and support assignments for the Modernization of Rules Subcommittee and will provide an update no later than March 8.
- Topics. The Transformation Committee identified several topics of such significant importance that they will remain with the Transformation Committee for review. Those topics include transfers, financial aid and benefits to student-athletes. The Transformation Committee will finalize the list of topics for review by the Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee in the near future.

2. Discussion on four-year college transfers.

- During its February 7-8 meeting, The Transformation Committee determined that it would retain responsibility for reviewing issues related to the four-year college transfer landscape.
- The Transformation Committee received an update on current transfer rates and NCAA Transfer Portal data and agreed to further explore whether appropriate guardrails could be introduced that would continue to support student-athlete choice while maintaining high quality athletics competitions.

3. Discussion of current events and constituent feedback.

- The Transformation Committee co-chairs shared a memo from the Knight Commission and noted that they will reach out to the Knight Commission for further discussion.
- The co-chairs noted for the group that the chair of the NCAA Division I Board of Directors received correspondence from several university presidents expressing a strong preference that the Board of Directors include representatives from all 32 Division I conferences. The Transformation Committee will engage in further discussion about potential governance models during future meetings.

Transformation Committee co-chairs: Julie Cromer, Ohio University

Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference

Staff Liaisons: Amanda Conklin, Law, Policy and Governance

Jenn Fraser, Law, Policy and Governance

Kevin Lennon, Law, Policy and Governance

Dave Schnase, Academic and Membership Affairs

Jerry Vaughn, Academic and Membership Affairs

Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance

Division I Transformation Committee February 15, 2022, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University.	
Janna Blais, Northwestern University.	
Dean Bresciani, North Dakota State University.	
Greg Christopher, Xavier University.	
Patrick Chun, Washington State University.	
Julie Cromer (co-chair), Ohio University.	
Troy Dannen, Tulane University.	
Jack DeGioia, Georgetown University.	
Robin Harris, The Ivy League.	
Bob Jacobsen, University of California, Berkeley.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Shane Lyons, West Virginia University.	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.	
Gloria Nevarez, West Coast Conference.	
Jim Phillips, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Greg Sankey (co-chair), Southeastern Conference.	
Kendall Spencer, Georgetown University.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University.	
Absentees:	
Damon Evans, University of Maryland, College Park.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon, Dave Schnase, Jerry Vaughn and Leeland Zeller.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Scott Bearby, Lydia Bell, Mark Emmert, Michelle Hosick, Bridget Rigney, Cari Van Senus, and Bob Williams.	



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 22, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

1. Discussion on student-athlete benefits.

- The Transformation Committee has been charged with developing a model for an enhanced Division I student-athlete experience, which includes an examination of support to student-athletes.
- The Transformation Committee received a privileged and confidential presentation on options related to student-athlete support and benefits. The committee will continue its discussion of the options during its March 1 meeting.

2. Division I Membership Landscape.

- The Transformation Committee acknowledged questions received from the membership regarding the impact of recent membership movement and realignment on the work of the Transformation Committee.
- The Transformation Committee discussed whether a membership moratorium would be advisable as the Transformation Committee reviews membership requirements and considers adjustments to the standards and expectations for Division I members.
- The Transformation Committee requested that the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee discuss the potential implications of a membership moratorium during its upcoming meeting on February 25.

3. Discussion of current events and constituent feedback.

- Engagement Opportunities. Transformation Committee members shared updates on recent engagement opportunities, including meetings with the Ohio Valley Conference Presidents, the Division I-AAA Athletic Directors Association and the Executive Directors of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and National Association of Basketball Coaches.
- Infractions Process. The Transformation Committee received an update on the February 18 meeting of the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Infractions Process Committee, during which the Infractions Process Committee advanced its charge by reviewing and narrowing down options for new models to enhance the infractions process in advance of the Transformation Committee's April 18-19 in-person meeting.
- Rules Modernization. The Transformation Committee received an update on the work on the of the NCAA Division I Modernization of the Rules Subcommittee. The subcommittee had its first organizational meeting and will begin meeting twice

weekly to meet its charge of delivering recommendations within 60 days. It is anticipated that recommendations will be considered during the Transformation Committee's April 18-19 in-person meeting.

*Transformation Committee co-chairs: Julie Cromer, Ohio University
Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference*

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Jenn Fraser, Law, Policy and Governance
Kevin Lennon, Law, Policy and Governance
Dave Schnase, Academic and Membership Affairs
Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance*

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Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
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Absentees:	
Jim Phillips, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Kendall Spencer, Georgetown University.	
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Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Scott Bearby, Michelle Hosick, Bridget Rigney, and Cari Van Senus.	



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 1, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

1. Discussion on student-athlete benefits and financial support.

- During its previous meeting, the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee discussed developing a model for an enhanced Division I student-athlete experience, which includes an examination of support to student-athletes.
- The Transformation Committee continued its exploration of potential options for student-athlete benefit and support models in the post-Alston environment. Discussions focused on support to student-athletes as well as possible minimum standards for Division I membership. The committee will revisit the issue during its next meeting on Tuesday, March 8.

2. Discussion of current events and constituent feedback.

- Division I Membership Landscape. The Transformation Committee received an update on the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Administrative Committee's discussion regarding the Division I membership landscape and a potential membership moratorium.

The Administrative Committee discussed the implications of a membership moratorium or notice to the membership that Division I membership standards may be impacted. The committee noted that the potential implications of such actions require thoughtful consideration. The Administrative Committee agreed to discuss the membership landscape further with the Board of Directors during its next meeting on April 27.

The Administrative Committee also agreed to send a memorandum to NCAA Division I, II and III institutions and conferences noting that the Transformation Committee is contemplating transformational change to Division I requirements. As such, all institutions and conferences should approach membership decisions with the expectation that any new Division I requirements would apply to all Division I members and institutions reclassifying to Division I.

- CCA22. Transformation Committee members Robin Harris and Gloria Nevarez shared feedback from the most recent meeting of the CCA22 noting the continued need for transparent communication about the work of the Transformation Committee, and clarity about the process and authority for other topics being discussed by other committees in the governance structure.

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Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference*

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Jerry Vaughn, Academic and Membership Affairs
Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance*

Report of the Division I Transformation Committee

March 1, 2022, Videoconference

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