



A G E N D A

National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Executive Board

Microsoft Teams Meeting

August 6, 2025
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern Time

1. Welcome and announcements. [Supplement No. 1] (Colleen Perry Keith)
2. Review of previous minutes. (Keith)
 - a. Spring 2025 Management Council and Executive Board. [Supplement No. 2] *(Action)*
 - b. Administrative Committee. [Supplement No. 3] *(Action)*
 - c. Board of Governors. [Supplement No. 4]
 - Board of Governors consultative process. [Supplement No. 5]
3. Management Council report from July 21-22 meeting. (Roberta Page)
 - a. Action items. [Supplement No. 6] *(Action)*
 - b. Information items. [Supplement No. 7]
4. Division II Executive Board issues. (Keith)
 - a. Notice of chair election in October. [Supplement No. 8]
 - b. Notice of vice chair election in October. [Supplement No. 9]
 - c. Assess the 2024-25 webinars for chancellors/presidents, athletic direct reports and conference commissioners. [Supplement No. 10]
5. SAAC goals for 2025-26. (Derrick Parker II and Haley White)
6. Discussion with NCAA President Charlie Baker. *(12:45 to 1:30 p.m.)*
7. Sport Science Institute update. (Deena Caserio) *(1:30 to 2 p.m.)*
8. Discussion with Jared Tidemann, director of legal affairs. *(2 to 2:30 p.m.)*
9. Division II updates.

- a. 2025-26 Division II Priorities. [Supplement No. 11] (Terri Steeb Gronau) (*Action*)
 - b. Division II Convention. [Supplement Nos. 12 and 13] (Maritza Jones)
- 10. Draft Division II Operating Plan. [Supplement No. 14] (Steeb Gronau)
 - 11. Congressional update. (Tim Buckley and Dawn Buth) (*3:30 to 4 p.m.*)
 - 12. Other business. (Keith)
 - 13. Future meetings. (Keith)
 - a. October 27-28, 2025, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
 - (1) October 27 – 6 to 9 p.m. – Division II Executive Board meeting.
 - (2) October 28 – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Division II Executive Board meeting.
 - (3) October 28 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Joint Lunch and Meeting with the Board of Governors and Divisions I and III.
 - b. January 13-16, 2026, in conjunction with the NCAA Convention; Washington, D.C.
 - (1) January 14 – 8 to 11:30 a.m. – Division II Executive Board/Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Breakfast and Meeting.
 - (2) January 14 – 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Division II Executive Board Meeting.
 - (3) January 14 – 5 to 6:30 p.m. – NCAA Honors.
 - (4) January 14 – 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. – Reception
 - (5) January 15 – 8 to 10:15 a.m. – Division II Chancellors and Presidents Breakfast and Meeting.
 - (6) January 15 – 10:30 a.m. to Noon – Division II Keynote Session.
 - (7) January 15 – 1 to 5 p.m. – Division II Conference Meetings.
 - (8) January 15 – 5 to 6 p.m. – Division II Faculty Mentor Award Presentation and Reception to Celebrate 20 Years of FAR Institutes.
 - (9) January 16 – 7 to 8 a.m. – Delegates Breakfast.
 - (10) January 16 – 8 to 11 a.m. – Division II Business Session.

- c. April 28, 2026, virtual meeting (11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern time).
 - d. August 5, 2026, virtual meeting (11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern time).
 - e. October 26-27, 2026, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
 - (1) October 26 – 6 to 9 p.m. – Division II Executive Board meeting.
 - (2) October 27 – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Division II Executive Board meeting.
 - (3) October 27 – 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Joint Lunch and Meeting with the Board of Governors and Divisions I and III.
14. Adjournment. (Keith)

2025 NCAA Division II Executive Board Roster

Roslyn Artis President Benedict College 1600 Harden Street Columbia, South Carolina 29204	Telephone: 803-705-4681 Email: roslyn.artis@benedict.edu Contact: Jenny Screen - jenny.screen@benedict.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026*
Tim Collins President Walsh University 2020 East Maple Street North Canton, Ohio 44720	Telephone: 330-490-7102 Email: tcollins@walsh.edu Contact: Christine Scheetz – cscheetz@walsh.edu Term: April 2024-January 2026*
John Y. Gotanda President Hawaii Pacific University 1 Aloha Tower Drive Honolulu, Hawaii 96813	Telephone: 808-543-8011 Email: jgotanda@hpu.edu Contact: Ashley Ching – aching@hpu.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026
Donna Henry Chancellor University of Virginia's College at Wise 1 College Avenue Wise, Virginia 24293	Telephone: 276-328-0122 Email: dhenry@uvawise.edu Contact: Dawn Jessee – djessee@uvawise.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026*
Edward Hjerpe 229 Montant Drive Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410	Telephone: 401-965-7094 Email: hjerpe@cox.net Term: January 2025-January 2027* Independent Member
Colleen Perry Keith, chair President Goldey-Beacom College 4701 Limestone Road Wilmington, Delaware 19808	Telephone: 302-225-6260 Email: keithcp@gbc.edu Contact: Paula Finnefrock – finnefpa@gbc.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026

Roberta Page (ex officio) Director of Athletics Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania 101 Field House Road, Suite 102 Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania 16057	Telephone: 724-738-2767 Email: roberta.page@sru.edu Cell Phone: 317-650-9098 Management Council Chair
Derrick Parker II Student-Athlete Grand Valley State University 1395 Duncan Avenue Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198	Telephone: 630-728-7448 Email: parkeder@mail.gvsu.edu Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Representative
Larry Parkinson 1207 Trinity Drive Alexandria, Virginia 22314	Telephone: 703-963-9591 Email: lrparkinson@comcast.net Term: February 2024-January 2026* Independent Member
Steven Shirley President Minot State University 500 University Avenue West Minot, North Dakota 58707	Telephone: 701-858-3300 Email: steven.shirley@minotstateu.edu Contact: Deb Wentz – deb.wentz@minotstateu.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026
Blake Thompson President Mississippi College P.O. Box 4001 Clinton, Mississippi 39058	Telephone: 601-925-3200 Email: bthompson@mc.edu Contact: Sheila Carpenter - carpenter@mc.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026*
Dwaun Warmack President Claflin University 400 Magnolia Orangeburg, South Carolina 29115	Telephone: 803-535-5412 Email: dwarmack@claflin.edu Contact: Kerri Walker - kwalker@claflin.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026*
Haley White Student-Athlete Lincoln Memorial University 6965 Cumberland Gap Parkway Harrogate, Tennessee 37752	Telephone: 606-584-2321 Email: haley.white@lmunet.edu Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Representative

Sandra Woodley, <i>vice chair</i> President University of Texas Permian Basin 4901 East University Odessa, Texas 79762	Telephone: 432-552-3100 Email: sandra.woodley@utpb.edu Contact: Sarah Burnett - burnett_s@utpb.edu Term: February 2024-January 2026*
---	---

* Eligible for re-election for an additional two-year term.

NCAA Staff

Terri Steeb Gronau Vice President of Division II Telephone: 317/917-6935 E-Mail: tgronau@ncaa.org	Angela Red Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II Telephone: 317/917-6228 E-Mail: ared@ncaa.org
Maritza S. Jones Managing Director of Division II Telephone: 317/917-6640 E-Mail: msjones@ncaa.org	Chelsea Hooks Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II Telephone: 317/917-6793 E-Mail: chooks@ncaa.org
Ryan Jones Director of Division II Telephone: 317/917-6629 E-Mail: rjones@ncaa.org	Rachel Denton Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II Telephone: 317/917-6173 E-Mail: rdenton@ncaa.org
Jill Waddell Coordinator of Division II Telephone: 317/917-6940 E-Mail: jwaddell@ncaa.org	Jordan Lysiak Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II Telephone: 317/917-6104 E-Mail: jlysiak@ncaa.org
Karen Kirsch Director of Championships and Alliances Telephone: 317/917-6765 E-Mail: kkirsch@ncaa.org	Mariah Murdock Assistant Director of Research Telephone: 317/917-6433 E-Mail: mmurdock@ncaa.org



SUMMARY OF SPRING 2025 QUARTERLY MEETINGS

National Collegiate Athletic Association

April 14-15, 2025, Division II Management Council; and April 22, 2025, Executive Board

1. Welcome and Announcements.

Management Council. The Management Council convened at 8:30 a.m. Monday, April 14. The chair welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging the staff who were present.

The chair welcomed Chris Colvin, commissioner at the Conference Carolinas, as an observer to the meeting due to David Hicks, former Conference Carolinas representative, having resigned from the Council.

The chair highlighted the schedule for the meeting, after which the Council proceeded with its agenda.

Executive Board. The Executive Board convened its videoconference at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 22. The chair welcomed those in attendance, including new independent member, Ed Hjerpe, and acknowledging the staff who were present.

The chair highlighted the schedule for the meeting, after which the board proceeded with its agenda.

2. Review of Previous Minutes.

a. Winter 2025 Management Council and Executive Board.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of actions from its winter meeting.

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved the summary of actions from its winter meeting.

b. NCAA Board of Governors.

(1) January 16 Meeting.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the Board of Governors' report from its January 16 in-person meeting.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the Board of Governors' report from its January 12 in-person meeting.

(2) Board of Governors Consultative Process.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Executive Board. The Executive Board discussed the key agenda items for the Board of Governors' April 24 meeting.

c. Administrative Committee.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the interim actions by the committee.

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved the interim actions by the committee.

3. 2024-25 Division II Priorities.

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the 2024-25 Division II Priorities, noting that a draft list for the 2025-26 priorities would be considered at the summer meeting.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was updated on the 2024-25 Division II Priorities, noting that a draft list for the 2025-26 priorities would be considered at the summer meeting.

4. NCAA Convention and Legislation.

a. Noncontroversial Legislation.

Management Council. The Management Council adopted in legislative form five noncontroversial proposals that had previously been approved in concept (Proposal Nos. NC-2026-8 through NC-2026-12), as presented. The proposals are listed below.

- (1) Proposal No. NC-2026-8: Eligibility and Awards and Benefits -- Athletics Eligibility and Expenses Provided by the Institution for Practice and Competition -- Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility and Permissible -- Exceptions to Outside-Competition Regulations and Other Competition.** To permit institutions to provide a student-athlete with actual and necessary expenses to participate in: (1) qualifying competition for regional and national championships; (2) qualifying competition for Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Youth Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University championships or the junior-level equivalent competition; and (3) national team training and competition used for consideration for selection or to determine members of a national team.

- (2) **Proposal No. NC-2026-9: Playing and Practice Seasons -- Ice Hockey -- Number of Contests – Annual Exemptions – Women’s Ice Hockey -- Scrimmage/Exhibition Contest.** In women’s ice hockey, to specify that a student-athlete may participate in one scrimmage or exhibition contest each year and exempt the scrimmage or exhibition contest from the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17.
- (3) **Proposal No. NC-2026-10: Playing and Practice Seasons -- Water Polo - Preseason Practice and First Date of Competition.** In men’s and women’s water polo, to specify that an institution shall not engage in its first date of competition with outside competition (other than an alumni scrimmage) prior to the Friday that is 14 weeks before the start of the NCAA National Collegiate Water Polo Championship. Further, in women’s water polo, to specify that an institution shall not commence practice sessions in the championship segment prior to 16 calendar days before the first scheduled intercollegiate contest.
- (4) **Proposal No. NC-2026-11: NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control -- Provisional Membership -- Institutions - Change of Division Membership (All Sports) -- Privileges and Voting Rights -- Use of Association’s Registered Marks -- Use of Division II-Specific Logos.** To eliminate the use of the Association’s registered marks by an institution in provisional year three of the Division II provisional membership process; further, to specify that an institution in the Division II membership process is limited to using Division II-specific logos.
- (5) **Proposal No. NC-2026-12: Recruiting and Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes -- Elimination of Requirement to Send Repayment Documentation.** To eliminate the requirement that an institution must send documentation of a prospective student-athlete’s and student-athlete’s repayment of an impermissible benefit to the NCAA enforcement staff; further, to specify that documentation of the prospective student-athlete’s and student-athlete’s repayment shall be kept on file by the institution.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

b. Memo for Inclusion of Proposals into the Division II Manual.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the inclusion into the 2025-26 NCAA Division II Manual of the proposals approved in legislative form and in concept at the April 2025 Management Council meeting that are considered the running supplements for the 2025 calendar year. These proposals will appear in the “blue pages” of the 2026 NCAA Division II Official Notice.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

5. Review of Committee Recommendations Affecting Division II.

a. Division II Committees.

(1) Academic Requirements Committee.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's February 7 electronic vote and February 27 videoconference reports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(2) Championships Committee.

(a) January 9 Videoconference.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's January 9 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) February 24-25 Videoconference.

i. Football Championship Bracket Expansion.

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Executive Board approve expanding the NCAA Division II Football Championship bracket from 28 teams to 32, effective with the 2025 championship.

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved expanding the Division II Football Championship bracket from 28 teams to 32, effective with the 2025 championship.

ii. Football Bracketing Principles and Priorities.

Management Council. The Management Council approved modifying the principles the Division II Football Committee uses to bracket the eight teams from each of the four super regions as follows:

- Teams awarded the No. 1 seed in each of four super regions shall be placed in the appropriate positions in the bracket in their selected super region (i.e., seed

Nos. 1 and 4 in the upper half with two unseeded teams; and seed Nos. 2 and 3 in the lower half with two unseeded teams).

- Teams selected in the Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8 spots in each super region will be considered “unseeded” and can be paired with any Nos. 1, 2, 3 or 4 seeds in the first round. Unseeded teams may be placed in any super region if doing so reduces the number of flights in the first/second round.
- Teams that reach the field via AQ and are not ranked in the top eight of the final ranking on the day of selections will be paired with a No. 1 seed in the opening round in their home super region (unless preliminary-round flights can be reduced by being paired with a No. 1 seed in an alternate super region). If multiple teams earn berths in the field via AQ and are not ranked in the top eight in the final rankings on the day of selections, the lowest-ranked AQ in the region will be paired with the No. 1 seed first. Subsequent AQs outside the top eight may be placed based on their rank and the integrity of the bracket.
- All 32 teams will play first-round games and there will not be any byes. Seed Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 in each super region will be paired with any unseeded team using the following pairing priorities:
 - Priority 1: Unseeded teams will be placed into the bracket to maximize reduction of first-round flights.
 - Priority 2: Unseeded teams will be placed into the bracket in a fashion that will reduce the likelihood of second-round flights.
 - Priority 3: Repeating regular-season matchups in the first round of the championship should be avoided, provided that doing so does not increase the number of flights (per Priorities 1 and 2).

- Priority 4: Teams shall be paired accordingly based on what their seed would have been prior to being listed as “unseeded.”

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

iii. Postseason Officiating Crew Sizes in Football.

Management Council. The Management Council approved permitting officiating crews in the Division II Football Championship to continue using the same number of officials (seven or eight officials) as their respective conferences have used throughout the regular season.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

iv. Additional Women’s Golf Officials.

Management Council. The Management Council was informed that the Administrative Committee approved adding one additional rules official at each of the four regional sites in the NCAA Division II Women’s Golf Championships.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

[The recommendation noted above was approved April 8 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference.]

v. Change to Access Ratio Policy.

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Executive Board approve adjusting the Division II team sport access ratio policy from 4.25:6 to 4:6.

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved adjusting the Division II team sport access ratio policy from 4.25:6 to 4:6.

vi. Cross Country Selection Procedures.

Management Council. The Management Council approved modifying the cross country selection criteria so that head-

to-head competition has more weight when selecting at-large teams. A head-to-head win would count as a 1.5 win, whereas second-tier comparisons would count as a 1 win.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(c) April 3 Videoconference.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's April 3 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(3) Degree Completion Award Committee.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's March 10 in-person meeting report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(4) Infractions Appeals Committee.

- **NCAA Division II Infractions Appeals Committee Internal Operating Procedures (IOPs).**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the updated Division II Infractions Appeals Committee IOPs.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(5) Legislation Committee.

(a) February 18 Electronic Vote.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's February 18 electronic action report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) March 18-19 In-Person Meeting.

- i. **Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaw 7.4 -- NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control – Financial Donations from Outside Organizations – Relationships with Third-Party Organizations.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.4 (financial donations from outside organizations) to provide institutions, conferences and the national office more flexibility to enter into agreements with third-party organizations.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided with an update that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.4.

ii. **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 14.2.6 -- Eligibility -- Academic Eligibility -- Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice with Women's Teams.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to permit a male practice player to receive travel expenses to participate in practice sessions in conjunction with an institution's away-from-home competition.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

iii. **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 17.02.15 -- Playing and Practice Seasons Definitions and Applications -- Tryouts -- Enrolled Student.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to clarify that a medical examination for a currently enrolled student must be administered within six-months prior to participation in a tryout.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

iv. **2025-26 Amateurism Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the 2025-26 Amateurism Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

v. **Legislative Referral to the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council requested that the Division II Women's Basketball Committee review Bylaw 17.32.1.8 (opponents) for consideration of a potential legislative change to permit Division II women's basketball teams to compete in one game against any opponent (e.g., NCAA, NAIA) during an institutional foreign tour.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

vi. **Request for Feedback from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators - Bylaw 15.**

Management Council. The Management Council requested that the Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators provide feedback on whether it is appropriate to amend Bylaw 15, as specified.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update that the Management Council requested that the Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators provide feedback on whether it is appropriate to amend several pieces of legislation in Bylaw 15, including: amending Bylaw 15.1.1 (eligibility of student-athletes for athletics aid) to permit a student-athlete to receive athletics aid beyond 10-semesters/15-quarters as specified; deregulating Bylaw 15.1.1.3 (retroactive athletics aid), to allow an institution to award retroactive athletics aid; amending Bylaw 15.2.2.3 (financial aid from an established and continuing program) to allow a student-athlete to receive financial aid through an established and continuing program with no restrictions; eliminating Bylaw 15.4.2.1.1.1 (overall limit) to allow an institution to award more than an equivalent of 60 total awards in all men's sports other than football and basketball; and amending Bylaw 15.4.2.2 (equivalency computations) to allow an institution to provide a student-athlete books as a permissible benefit rather than part of a student-athlete's athletics aid.

(6) **Legislative Relief Committee.**

(a) **February 26 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's February 26 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) April 2 Videoconference.

- **Division II Legislative Relief Committee Information Standards, Guidelines and Directives.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the updated Legislative Relief Committee information standards, guidelines and directives, as specified.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(7) Membership Committee.

(a) February 11 Videoconference.

- i. **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 7.3.2.1.2 -- Active Membership -- Eligibility for National Collegiate and Division Championships -- Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships -- Options When No Division II Championship is Conducted -- Men's Ice Hockey.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.3.2.1.2 (options when no Division II championship is conducted) to specify in men's ice hockey, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship provided there is not a men's ice hockey championship conducted in Division II.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- ii. **Review of the Application of Ferrum College to Enter Year One of the Expedited Provisional Membership Process, Effective September 1, 2025.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an update that Ferrum College was approved to enter provisional year one of the two-year expedited provisional membership process, effective September 1, 2025.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update that Ferrum College was approved to enter provisional year one of the two-year expedited provisional membership process, effective September 1, 2025.

iii. **Preliminary Review of Middle Georgia State University's Application for Division II Membership.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an update that Middle Georgia State University submitted an application by the February 1, 2025, deadline to enter the Division II three-year provisional process.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update that Middle Georgia State University submitted an application by the February 1, 2025, deadline to enter the Division II three-year provisional process.

iv. **Update regarding the 2024-25 Sports Sponsorship and Demographic Form.** The Management Council received an update regarding the process for the submission of the 2024-25 Sports Sponsorship and Demographic (SSD) Form. Specifically, it was noted that upon reviewing the Division II sports sponsorship membership requirements, NCAA staff became aware that there is some necessary data that has not been collected through the annual submission of the SSD Form. As a result, in addition to the submission of the SSD Form, each institution will be required to submit data in individual sports regarding the participant count for each contest. Staff are working internally to add the data collection to future iterations of the SSD Form.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) **April 1 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's April 1 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(8) **Nominating Committee.**

(a) **February 11-12 Videoconference.**

- **Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following appointments, effective as noted:

- i. **Division II Championships Committee (two September vacancies).** **Rebekah Gasner**, associate athletics director for compliance and student-athlete services and senior woman administrator, Montana State University Billings, Great Northwest Athletic Conference; and **Ahleasha McNeal**, senior associate athletics director of academic services and compliance and senior woman administrator, Lincoln Memorial University, South Atlantic Conference.
- ii. **Division II Legislation Committee (two vacancies, one immediate replacing Dawn Makofski and one September).** **Jen Mercurio**, deputy athletics director, Florida Institute of Technology, Sunshine State Conference (immediate); and **Laura Dahlby Nicolai**, associate commissioner, Great Northwest Athletic Conference (September).
- iii. **Division II Nominating Committee (one September vacancy).** **Scott Larson**, vice president for athletics, University of Texas Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) March 18 Electronic Action.

- **Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following appointments, effective September 1, 2025:

- **Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.** **Jacie McWilliams** (three-year term), commissioner, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; **Greg Bamberger** (four-year term), director of athletics, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference; **Dawn Turner** (four-year

term), deputy athletics director and senior woman administrator, Lander University, Peach Belt Conference; **Mercedes Himmons** (four-year term), assistant athletic trainer and athletics diversity and inclusion designee, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference; and **Nichole Book** (two-year term, eligible for reappointment); diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging coordinator and Title IX deputy, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(c) **April 8 Videoconference.**

- **Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following appointments, effective immediately:

- i. **Division II Academic Requirements Committee (one immediate vacancy replacing Andrea Webb).** **Jen Cole**, associate athletics director of compliance and senior woman administrator, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Gulf South Conference.
- ii. **Division II Committee on Infractions (one immediate vacancy replacing Sara Richwine).** **Steven Johnson**, assistant athletics director for compliance, Southern Nazarene University, Great American Conference.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(9) **Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.**

(a) **March 29 Videoconference.**

- i. **Division II Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2025-26.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Executive Board approve the budget requests for the 2025-26 fiscal year (FY26), as noted below.

The rationale for each request is listed alongside the amount requested.

Category	Budget Request	Amount	Description
Championships	Per Diem	\$1,125,000	\$15 increase in per diem from the current \$135 to \$150.
Championships	Travel	\$288,367	The NCAA accounting staff annually estimates expected travel inflation for Division II championships travel. This represents a 2% increase which is the same as the request for FY25.
Championships	Division II Football Championship bracket expansion from 28 to 32 teams	\$545,000	Supported by exceptions to the triennial budget process that include bracket adjustments when a championship policy is triggered, and the membership's adoption of a proposal establishing football as an AQ sport instead of the previous earned access model. With the current bracket of 28, that would result in 57 percent of the bracket being composed of AQs, which is above the current 50 percent requirement to trigger a review.
Championships	Division II Women's Lacrosse Championship bracket expansion, date formula and format	\$140,000	This request, which already has been approved by the Executive Board, allows the top two seeds in each region to host first- and second-round games (rather than only the top seed in each region). The funding also covers the additional costs not included in the original projections approved as part of the triennial budget

Category	Budget Request	Amount	Description
			process to expand the bracket from 16 to 24.
Championships	Additional women's golf officials	\$7,000	Because all four regionals have expanded to 96 participants, it is important to add one official per region. This also aligns with men's golf from a gender equity standpoint, which satisfies an exception to the triennial budget process.
Championships	Postseason officiating crew size in football	\$3,930	This request, which meets the exceptions to the triennial budget process, allows conferences that use eight-person crews to continue using them during the Division II championship, with the current alternate official being included as the eighth member of the crew.
Revenue Distribution	Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund	\$183,779	A 3% increase to the fund per the division's long-range budget.
Revenue Distribution	Institutional Equal Distribution Fund	\$61,259	A 3% increase to the fund per the division's long-range budget.
Initiatives	Additional expenses to Division II	\$47,554	Per the new NCAA constitution and starting in FY23, an annual review is conducted to validate additional Association service expenses that Division II pays for directly from its 4.37 percent allocation. The total includes a 3% inflationary increase (\$5,554), per the long-range budget and \$42,000 to reclassify a part-time assistant director to a full-time associate director.

Category	Budget Request	Amount	Description
Initiatives	Regular season/ championships media	\$40,000	An inflationary increase to support championships web streaming efforts (e.g., contractual expenses for production).
Initiatives	SAAC Super Region Convention	\$32,000	An inflationary increase to support travel and apparel costs.
Initiatives	Coaches Connection Program	\$26,000	Costs for adding a connection program for faculty athletics representatives and athletic trainers.
Initiatives	Apple Training Institute and NCAA Inclusion Forum	\$19,000	This covers an increase in the contract with the Gordie Center (which has remained flat since 2019) for inflationary increases (e.g., hotel, food).
Initiatives	Identity initiatives, communications and marketing	\$10,000	An inflationary increase to support the Division II conference T-shirt program.
Initiatives	FAR Institute	\$7,500	A one-time expense to celebrate 20 years of the institutes.
Initiatives	NCAA Convention	\$3,000	An inflationary increase for apparel given as gifts to the membership.
Initiatives	Insurance	\$2,000	To address an increase in cost for the division's coverage.
TOTAL		\$2,541,389	

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved the budget requests for FY26 noting that the budget requests provide several enhancements, including \$1.125 million for a \$15 per diem increase to \$150 for championships competition for the 2025-26 academic year.

ii. **Long-Range Budget.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with an update on the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee's review of the long-range budget, as follows:

The committee continued discussing the division's long-range budget, particularly how the new revenue coming to the division should be allocated (as well as the portion of the division's reserves that will be spent to align with the level mandated in the division's budget guidelines and principles).

This included a discussion regarding the percent of the new revenue and reserves that should be allocated to support the division's 25 championships (currently about 63% of the FY25 budget is allocated to championships, which includes championships travel, per diem, operations and committee expenses). This discussion also included the understanding that what is allocated to championships would in turn affect allocations to the other two overarching budget categories (revenue distributions to member institutions/conferences, and initiatives/programming for Division II members). Based on feedback from various Division II stakeholders, as well as the preliminary survey results, the committee agreed that the baseline for the championship allocation of the new revenue and reserves should be at least 65%. The committee also asked staff to run additional models reflecting allocations of 70% and 75% for the group to consider during its June meeting.

The committee also discussed whether the current revenue distribution model (75% to conferences through the Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund and 25% to institutions through the Institutional Equal Distribution Fund, and a potential supplemental distribution to institutions in years when there is an operating surplus in the Division II budget) should be reviewed. The committee encouraged this issue to be discussed during a future Management Council meeting to determine whether Management Council members should seek feedback on this topic during conference spring meetings to inform the SPFC's final recommendation. The Management Council agreed to seek feedback on the Division II revenue distribution model and will discuss the feedback received during its July meeting and share it with the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee for its August meeting.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update on the Division II long-range budget.

(b) 2024-25 Year to Date Budget-to-Actual Report.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the budget-to-actual report for the period ending February 28, 2025.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the budget-to-actual report for the period ending February 28, 2025.

(10) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's January 13-14 in-person and March 31 videoconference reports and received a verbal preview regarding the April 24 in-person meeting.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

b. Division II Project Teams, Subcommittees and Working Groups.

(1) Convention Planning Project Team.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the project team's report, along with the survey results from the 2025 Convention. The Management Council discussed the 2026 Convention proposed schedule and provided feedback on potential educational sessions.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the 2026 Convention proposed schedule and educational program suggestions.

(2) Eligibility Review Working Group.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the working group's February 26, March 10 and March 26 videoconference reports. The council was also provided with an overview of the group's charge, data reviewed, guiding principles, initial concepts for membership feedback and next steps for the review. The Management Council provided initial feedback on the concepts and was reminded to complete a survey to inform potential recommendations to amend current rules related to seasons of competition and period of eligibility.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided with an overview of the group's charge, data reviewed, guiding principles, initial concepts for

membership feedback and next steps for the review. The board provided initial feedback on the concepts and was reminded to complete a survey to inform potential recommendations to amend current rules related to seasons of competition and period of eligibility.

(3) Management Council Identity Subcommittee.

Management Council. The Management Council received an update on the discussions by the Identity Subcommittee, including the selection process and timeline for the Award of Excellence, Make It Yours brand and marketing, social media analytics for the Winter National Championships Festival, use of the credits by schools and conferences for the purchase of signage through Source 1 Digital, Division II Day and monthly social media analytics.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

c. Association-Wide Committees.

(1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

(a) December 9 Videoconference.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's December 9 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) Excerpt from February 17-18 In-Person Meeting.

- **Interpretation and educational column on application of sickle cell legislation.**

Management Council. The Management Council referred to the Division II Legislation Committee the following: (1) To issue an interpretation of sickle cell legislation to determine that only results from a sickle cell solubility test satisfy the requirements of NCAA legislation; and (2) To issue one combined and updated educational column to replace the six existing columns on sickle cell solubility testing.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(2) Committee on Women's Athletics.

a. Emerging Sports for Women – Women’s Flag Football.

Management Council. The Management Council sponsored in concept a proposal for the 2026 Convention to add women’s flag football as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to athletics personnel, amateurism, recruiting, financial aid, playing and practice seasons and membership, as specified.

The continued growth in high school girl’s flag football and the number of collegiate institutions sponsoring the sport demonstrate the rapid growth of the sport and its potential to reach NCAA championship status at the collegiate level. Enough women’s flag football teams met the prescribed guidelines of the Emerging Sports for Women Program application to demonstrate significant interest and sustainability within college. Additionally, the sport is relatively inexpensive to sponsor and attracts additional demographics of potential student-athletes. In addition, there is a shared commitment at the collegiate level to increase participation opportunities from institutions and conferences, as well as funding and resources from national governing bodies to further support the sport’s growth. Finally, the immediate effective date will allow schools that sponsor the sport in the 2026 spring championship season to count towards the requirement of 40 institutions to establish a national collegiate championship in a women’s sport.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update that the Management Council sponsored legislation in concept for the 2026 Convention to add women’s flag football as an emerging sport.

b. Request from Conference Carolinas Regarding Flag Football.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed a request from the Conference Carolinas to add women’s flag football as an emerging sport for women via noncontroversial legislation. The Council did not support the request and affirmed that the entire membership should vote on the proposed legislation at the 2026 Convention.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(3) Honors Committee.

- **Committees – Association-Wide Committees – Honors Committee – Name, Composition and Duties – Woman of the Year Award.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to modify the name, composition and duties of the NCAA Honors Committee, as follows: (a) rename the Honors Committee to the Awards Committee; (b) increase the composition of the committee from nine to 10 members specifying that one position shall be allocated for a former student-athlete who was a Woman of the Year nominee and to replace the position allocated for a current or former chancellor or president from a member institution with a senior-level athletics administrator at a member institution or conference; and (c) expand the duties of the committee to include oversight, management and selection of the Woman of the Year Award.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(4) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's February 10 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(5) Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the panel's November 13 and January 22 videoconference reports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(6) Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's February 28 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

6. Breakout Sessions to Discuss Results from the Division II Survey.

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a summary of the results from the Division II survey and next steps on the development of the Operating Plan. The council participated in breakout sessions Tuesday morning, which gave members the opportunity to provide feedback on the results from the Division II survey.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided with an overview of the current draft Operating Plan, results from the Division II survey and next steps of the development of the Operating Plan. The board provided feedback on the results of the Division II survey.

7. Division II Management Council.

a. Election to fill the Conference Carolinas' Vacancy.

Management Council. The Management Council elected Jennifer Bell, director of athletics, Converse University as the new Conference Carolinas' representative on the Council, effective immediately for a four-year term concluding at the January 2029 Convention.

Executive Board. The Executive Board ratified the election.

b. Management Council Committee and Project Team Assignments.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed its committee and project team assignments.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

c. Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit.

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the anticipated activities for the joint summit of the Management Council and SAAC in July.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

8. Division II Executive Board.

- **Discussion of Governance Structure Changes – One Year in Effect.** The Executive Board discussed the changes to the governance structure including the transition of the Presidents Council to the Executive Board, additional duties and authority to the Management Council, policy changes for sponsorship of legislation for the NCAA Convention and the meeting format. The board agreed that the changes implemented are working well.

9. National Office Updates.

a. Executive.

Management Council. The Management Council received an update from the NCAA president on issues surrounding the NCAA.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update on issues surrounding the NCAA from the NCAA president.

b. Legal.

Management Council. The Management Council received a legal update from the NCAA director of legal affairs on issues surrounding the NCAA.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received a legal update on issues surrounding the NCAA from the NCAA director of legal affairs.

c. Sport Science Institute.

Management Council. The Management Council received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including cannabinoids, sports betting, mental health, and the Performance Technology in College Athletics Summit.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including cannabinoids, sports betting, mental health, and the Performance Technology in College Athletics Summit.

d. Fan Database.

Management Council. The Management Council received an update on the fan database from the NCAA senior vice president of business performance.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

e. Discussion on Accreditation.

Management Council. The Management Council referred to the Academic Requirements Committee and Membership Committee a review and discussion of a potential legislative change to amend the membership requirement regarding regional accreditation to specify that an active member institution must have accreditation by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in compliance with Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. With the adoption of the new NCAA constitution in 2022, the NCAA legislation requiring active member institutions to be accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies are now federated provisions. Therefore, each division has the autonomy to determine the membership requirement for accreditation of active institutions. The Management Council believes the Academic Requirements Committee and

Membership Committee are best suited to discuss this information and make a recommendation on whether to amend the membership requirement regarding accreditation.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update on the referral that the Management Council approved for the Academic Requirements Committee and Membership Committee for a review and discussion of a potential legislative change to amend the membership requirement regarding regional accreditation to specify that an active member institution must have accreditation by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in compliance with Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. The Executive Board recommended that the committees track on any changes to the accreditation process by the Department of Education before acting on any potential changes to Division II legislation.

f. Sports Wagering.

Management Council. The Management Council was provided next steps and a timeline for each division on the potential deregulation of sport wagering legislation as it relates to professional sports. The Council directed the Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee to discuss next steps for potential Division II relief in case the legislation to deregulate the legislation is not supported by all three divisions this summer. If this is the case, the Management Council would like the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee to discuss potentially amending its guidelines to provide relief that does not include withholding from competition if it is determined a student-athlete only wagered on professional sports. Repayment would still be required as wagering on professional sports would still be prohibited, but additional relief could be considered given that the Division II Management Council has supported deregulating the legislation.

In addition, the Management Council referred to the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee a review of concepts related to safe harbor and limited immunity. Exploring the concept of a safe harbor or limited immunity for student-athletes, reaffirms that harm reduction and education will continue to be paramount. There are situations where it may not be appropriate to apply a safe harbor or immunity (e.g., cases involving the integrity of intercollegiate contests - point shaving, inside information). However, in other cases (e.g., limited bets on other sports or schools), some situations may warrant appropriate reductions of student-athlete reinstatement penalties in cases in which a student-athlete seeks help for problem gambling. Finally, if the prohibition on wagering on professional sports is deregulated, it will be more likely that student-athletes and staff will seek help for problem gambling.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided next steps and a timeline for each division on the potential deregulation of sport wagering legislation as it relates

to professional sports noting the Division II Management Council may be asked to take legislative action at its July meeting.

g. Division II Winter Championships Festival.

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a recap of the Division II Winter Championships Festival that was held in March in Indianapolis.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided with a recap of the Division II Winter Championships Festival that was held in March in Indianapolis.

h. Division II Make It Yours Brand/Marketing Outreach.

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a summary of the Make It Yours brand/marketing outreach campaign. Overall, the campaign delivered more than 57.4 million impressions, 5.4 million views and 874,000 engagements across all platforms. A temporary Division II Difference landing page built for the campaign saw nearly 40,000 visitors during the campaign and was the fifth most viewed page on ncaa.org during that time. The activation included a 45-second public service announcement that was edited into smaller versions, including two 30-second versions that Division II members could play in their webcasts.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided with a summary of the Make It Yours brand/marketing outreach campaign.

i. SAAC Super Region Convention.

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the SAAC Super Region Convention that is scheduled for April 25-27, 2025, in Indianapolis for the Central and Midwest regions.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

10. Affiliated Association Updates.

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the activities of the following affiliated associations.

a. Division II Athletics Directors Association.

b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association.

c. College Sports Communicators.

- d. **Faculty Athletics Representative Association.**
- e. **Minority Opportunities Athletics Association.**
- f. **National Association for Athletics Compliance.**
- g. **Women Leaders in Sports.**

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

11. Other Business.

Management Council. The Management Council revisited a previous discussion regarding potentially issuing a blanket waiver for Division II to permit a student-athlete who attended and competed at a non-NCAA institution for one or more years to remain eligible to compete in the 2025-26 academic year, provided the student-athlete would have otherwise used their final season of competition during the 2024-25 academic and they meet all eligibility requirements (e.g., progress toward degree, time remaining within their 10-semester/15-quarters). This blanket waiver was similar to the blanket waiver granted recently by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors. The Management Council did not take any action to alter its original decision from February to not issue such a waiver

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update on the Management Council's discussion regarding the Division I Blanket Waiver and its decision to not take any action to alter its original decision to not issue such a waiver.

12. Meeting Recap/Things to Report Back to Conferences.

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a list of topics/issues to report to its member institutions. These topics included the governance-sponsored proposal for the 2026 Convention; feedback request on revenue distribution; Eligibility Review Working Group; discussion on Division I blanket waiver; football championship bracket expansion; football bracketing principles and priorities; postseason officiating crew sizes in football; change to access ratio policy; cross country selection procedures; women's bowling survey, REAL ID deadline approaching; fiscal year 2026 budget requests; 2024-25 Sports Sponsorship and Demographic form; sports wagering; Epic Risk Management; and the post-meeting article.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

13. Future Meetings.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the upcoming meetings through October 2026.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the upcoming meetings through October 2026.

14. Adjournment.

Management Council. The Management Council adjourned at 12:18 p.m. April 15.

Executive Board. The Executive Board adjourned at 3:57 p.m. April 22.

April 14-15, 2025, Management Council; and April 22, 2025, Executive Board	
Attendees:	
Management Council	Executive Board
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	Tim Collins, Walsh University
Jackie Armstrong, Point Loma Nazarene University	John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University	Edward Hjerpe, Independent Member
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	Derrick Parker II, Grand Valley State University
Peter Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University	Larry Parkinson, Independent Member
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	Steve Shirley, Minot State University
Jennifer Flowers, Southwest Minnesota State University	Blake Thompson, Mississippi College
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University	Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University	
George Knox, Shaw University	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	

Bo Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University	
Sarah Ramey, University of Texas Permian Basin	
Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University	
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University	
Absentees:	
None	Roslyn Artis, Benedict College
	Donna Henry, University of Virginia's College at Wise
	Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University
Guests in Attendance	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas	None
NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Charlie Baker, Deena Caserio (<i>April 14-15</i>), Michael Cioroianu, Rachel Denton, Terri Steeb Gronau, Brian Higgins (<i>April 14-15</i>), Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Karen Kirsch, Kevin Lennon (<i>April 22</i>), Jordan Lysiak, Gretchen Miron (<i>April 14-15</i>), Mariah Murdock, Nicole Pieart, Stephanie Quigg (<i>April 14-15</i>), Angela Red, Rachel Seewald (<i>April 14-15</i>), Alex Smith (<i>April 14-15</i>), Jared Tidemann, Jill Waddell and Wendy Walters (<i>April 14-15</i>)	

Interim Actions of the NCAA Division II Administrative Committee

1. On May 7, the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following changes to the Division II Management Council committee and project team assignments, effective immediately, unless otherwise noted:
 - **Jenn Bell:** Add Division II Infractions Appeals Committee and the Management Council Identity Subcommittee.
 - **Theresa Grosbach:** Serve as mentor to Jenn Bell.
 - **Femi Alao:** Remove as Management Council liaison to the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interest Committee and add as Management Council liaison to the new Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact, effective August 1, 2025.
2. On May 27, the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following item:
 - **Appointments to Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** The committee approved three appointments, effective immediately.
 - a. Great Lakes Valley Conference, **Emma Neal**, women's cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field, Maryville University of St. Louis.
 - b. South Atlantic Conference, **Abbie McCants**, softball, Coker University.
 - c. Sunshine State Conference, **Mario Kirkov**, men's tennis, Eckerd College.
3. On June 20, the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following item:
 - **Appointments to Association-Wide Committees.** The committee approved two appointments, effective immediately.
 - a. **NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (one immediate vacancy – public member - physician).** **Stacey Schley, MD**, public physician.
 - b. **NCAA Honors Committee.** **Joan Cronan**, former NCAA Honors recipient.



REPORT OF THE
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
APRIL 24, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. The Board of Governors authorized the NCAA enforcement staff to gather facts about sports wagering, regardless of whether the fact-gathering results in a traditional infractions case.
2. The NCAA Board of Governors approved amendments to its policies and procedures.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the videoconference at approximately 1:04 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the Governors.
2. **Executive session/Legal update.** The board convened in executive session to discuss various administrative and legal matters. Specifically, the board discussed the proposed settlement of pending antitrust cases against the NCAA and the five defendant Division I conferences.
3. **Approval of the NCAA Board of Governors January 16, 2025, meeting, January 27, 2025, videoconference, February 6, 2025, electronic vote, and April 2, 2025, videoconference reports.** The Board of Governors approved the four reports from January, February, and April 2025.
4. **Approval of updates to the NCAA Board of Governors Policies and Procedures.** The Board of Governors reviewed several amendments to its policies and procedures, as follows:
 - Editorial changes to align the language in the policies and procedures with the NCAA Constitution (e.g., references changed from former student-athletes to graduated student-athletes);
 - Inclusion of previously approved changes to the charters for the Board of Governors Executive Committee and the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee;
 - Inclusion of processes established and previously approved by the board (consultative process; nomination, appointment and reappointment process for independent voting members); and
 - Eliminating three addendums (executive compensation policy, delegation of authority policy, and meeting structure for NCAA governance meetings) and incorporating the language into the appropriate sections of the policies and procedures.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the amendments to its policies and procedures, effective immediately upon adjournment of the videoconference.” **Approved** (Unanimous vote)

5. **Overview of evaluation process for the NCAA President.** NCAA staff provided an update on the evaluation process and timeline for the NCAA President. It was noted that the evaluation process opens on July 10 and closes on July 25, with a final report to be provided to the chair of the board in early August. It was further noted that feedback will be sought from the members of the divisional Administrative Committees as part of the consultative process required in the NCAA Constitution. Finally, a mid-year evaluation was added to the process this year, which was conducted at the conclusion of the videoconference in executive session.
6. **NCAA President’s report.** NCAA President Charlie Baker updated the board on the progress of his goals for the 2024-25 academic year. President Baker’s goals include the following:
 - Enhance the student-athlete championship experience by driving more fans to championships and increased per diem, among other actions.
 - Implement the Association-wide Injury Insurance Protection Program and Division I Core Guarantees.
 - Leverage the NCAA’s scale to benefit the membership, building on recent work of collective purchasing opportunities such as the agreement with RefQuest Plus.
 - Support student-athletes through advocacy efforts around sports betting protections and resource development.
 - Expand the fan database to 15 million emails and use the database to drive traffic to less visible championships.
 - Create more high-quality streaming across all three divisions.
 - Grow the revenue base through various opportunities.
 - Implement substantive reform, including a new decision-making structure in Division I.

The Board of Governors also reviewed concepts from the Division I Decision-Making Working Group that were presented to the Division I Board of Directors on April 21, 2025. Specifically, the board discussed and provided feedback on four concepts that would affect the Board of Governors and its committees, as follows:

- Amend the Board of Governors Consultative Process to specify that board members will request a formal recommendation(s) from a divisional presidential body when a matter directly affects a division (e.g., legal; financial).
- Amend the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee Charter to:
 - Increase the BOGFAC composition by adding members that are campus or conference practitioners (e.g., athletics directors; conference commissioners); and
 - Codify that BOGFAC will meet jointly with the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee.
- Amend the Board of Governors Executive Committee to:
 - Eliminate the Executive Committee and require all issues vetted by the committee to be reviewed by the full board (e.g., NCAA Executive Compensation Philosophy; Nominating Committee for chair, vice chair and independent members of the board; recommendation of penalties of the NCAA BOG Policy on Campus Sexual Violence); or
 - Eliminate the Executive Committee and establish a Compensation Subcommittee to oversee the NCAA's Executive Compensation Philosophy and make final recommendations to the board.
- Create a Board of Governors Legal Affairs Advisory Group to provide strategy and guidance on litigation matters impacting the Association or a specific division.

It was noted that the Board of Governors has authority to adopt these policy changes, and if approved, they would be effective immediately upon adjournment of the meeting in which action occurs. The board agreed to review the four concepts during its August 7 videoconference.

7. **DEI review of NCAA programs, initiatives and legislation.** The senior vice president for inclusion, education and community engagement provided an update on the review of programs, initiatives and legislation to comply with federal guidance on diversity, equity and inclusion applicable to institutions of higher education. It was noted that the board will continue to receive updates during future meetings.
8. **Communications update.** The board did not receive a communications update.
9. **Update regarding congressional engagement.** The NCAA senior vice president of external affairs updated the board on the ongoing efforts with Congress and next steps on engagement with key committees and elected officials. The discussion provided details on bipartisan discussions in Congress as key members work toward a federal bill regarding name, image and likeness protections for student-athletes, special status of student-athletes

with their schools, safe harbor from select liability complaints, and preemption of state law. Highlights were also provided on the success of NCAA members engaging with their members of congress, while emphasizing those continued efforts.

10. **NCAA Constitution Principles of Integrity and Sportsmanship and Student-Athlete Well-Being – Authority for fact-finding and sports wagering reports to protect the integrity of competition.** A managing director of enforcement provided an update on the partnership of various units in the national office on several sports wagering initiatives. Specifically, it was noted that the enforcement staff participates in fact-gathering/finding on sports wagering reports that may or may not result in an infractions case, may not directly involve a member school or student-athlete, and sometimes focuses on the behavior of officials. Staff requested the board's authority to conduct such fact-finding as it expands the enforcement staff's authority to gather facts in situations that involve officials.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors approve the authority for the NCAA enforcement staff to gather facts about sports wagering, regardless of whether the fact gathering results in a traditional infractions case." **Approved** (Unanimous vote)

11. **NCAA Sport Science Institution/NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports update.** The NCAA chief medical officer provided an update on the World Athletics policy regarding mandatory genetic testing for elite female athletes. It was noted that the policy should have a minimal impact on current NCAA student-athletes; however, there is a need to educate elite athletics who are still competing in college. Additionally, an update was provided on the work of the Sport Science Institute since the chief medical officer assumed the role in August 2024. This included key initiatives and new resources available to the membership, engagement by the CMO with member schools and conferences, and an outline of the future priorities in student-athlete health and safety.
12. **Divisional review of accreditation requirements for NCAA membership.** The NCAA managing director of governance and policy provided an update on the divisional review of the membership requirement requiring active schools to have a regional accreditation and whether it should be amended to specify that an active school must have an accreditation by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in compliance with the Higher Education Act of 1965. The board noted that following the adoption of the NCAA Constitution in January 2022, the membership requirement on accreditation became a federated provision, and each division has the autonomy to determine the membership requirement for its member schools.
13. **NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee report.** Houston Davis, chair of the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee, presented the BOGFAC report from the April 17 joint videoconference with the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee.

- a. **NCAA 990 Tax Return.** The board reviewed the NCAA Form 990 Federal Tax Return, which covers tax year September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. It was noted that the committees did not identify any concerns.
- b. **NCAA financial update.**
 - (1) **FY2025 budget update.** The committees received a mid-year budget to actuals update on the FY2025 budget.
 - (2) **FY2026 budget update.** The committees received an update on the development of the FY2026 budget, which will be presented for final approval to the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee in late July 2025. The recommendation for approval of the FY2026 budget will be presented to the Board of Governors during its August 7 videoconference.
 - (3) **Update on funding of emerging sports for women – acrobatics and tumbling, stunt, triathlon and women’s flag football.** The committees received a status update on sports in the emerging sports for women program that are nearing the minimum thresholds to establish national collegiate championships. The Committee on Women’s Athletics will review the institutional sponsorship numbers for Triathlon, Acrobatics and Tumbling, and Stunt during a May videoconference. If a sport achieves the minimum of 40 schools sponsoring the sport in the 2024-25 academic year, CWA will recommend that the divisions sponsor legislation to establish a championship and a committee. BOGFAC will then be asked to approve Association-wide funding for the championships and committees for FY2027. This recommendation will be discussed during the July 30 joint videoconference with the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee. It was also noted that the divisional councils reviewed a recommendation from CWA to add women’s flag football to the emerging sports for women program during the April 2025 governance meetings. The Division I Council tabled the discussion and the Divisions II and III Management Councils agreed to recommend sponsorship of the legislation for a 2026 NCAA Convention vote.

14. **Board of Governors Processes and Procedures.**

- a. **NCAA Board of Governors Executive Committee January 9, 2025, report and April 17, 2025, videoconference agenda.** President Livingstone reported on matters discussed in the Executive Committee’s videoconferences on January 9 and April 17. President Livingstone noted that during the January 9 videoconference, the committee reviewed the list of disqualified persons and discussed succession planning at the NCAA national office for emergencies and transitions of senior staff. Finally, the committee agreed to a recommendation to the full board regarding the application of the penalty for schools that were unable to attest to the NCAA Policy on Campus Sexual Violence during the 2023-24 academic year. President

Livingstone also highlighted that during the April 17 videoconference, the committee reviewed the NCAA Tax Form 990, received an overview of the NCAA president's performance review, and participated in an executive session to discuss the competitive labor market for the NCAA president and executives at the national office.

b. Board of Governors composition and terms of office.

- **Chair election notice.** President Livingstone reported that her term as chair expires upon adjournment of the board's August 7 videoconference, which will require the election of a new chair.
15. **Executive session – mid-year evaluation/feedback on progress of NCAA presidential goals.** The board convened in executive session to provide mid-year feedback to President Charlie Baker on the progress with his goals for the 2024-25 academic year.
16. **Other business.** The board did not have other business.
17. **Future meetings.** The board reviewed its future meeting dates through 2025.
18. **Adjournment.** The videoconference was adjourned at approximately 4:57 p.m. Eastern time.

Board of Governors chair: Linda Livingstone, Baylor University
Staff liaisons: Terri Steeb Gronau, Governance and Policy
Stephanie Quigg, Governance and Policy

NCAA Board of Governors April 24, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Charlie Baker, NCAA president.	
Glenn Boyce, University of Mississippi.	
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas.	
Allison Feaster, Boston Celtics.	
Colleen Perry-Keith, Goldey Beacom College.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Madeleine McKenna, Graduated Division II student-athlete.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.	
Jim Phillips, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Greg Ricketts, Graduated Division III student-athlete.	
Jim Troha, Juniata College.	
Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.	

Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 th U.S. Army Surgeon General.
Josh Whitman, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
Morgyn Wynne, Graduated Division I student-athlete.
Absentees:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Terri Steeb Gronau and Stephanie Quigg.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Deena Casiero, Amanda Conklin, Kelly Dodds, Jennifer Fraser, Dan Gavitt, Mark Hicks, Corey Jackson, Katie Koenig, Kevin Lennon, Felicia Martin, Louise McCleary, Corbin McGuire, Mario Morris, Kim Oren, Lynda Tealer and Stan Wilcox.



NCAA Board of Governors
August 7, 2025, Videoconference
Consultative Process – Divisional Presidential Bodies

1. Board of Governors Policies and Procedures review.

The Board of Governors will review and act on changes to its policies and procedures based on recommendations from the Division I Decision Making Working Group. These changes will establish greater alignment and transparency between the board and the Division I Board of Directors.

Changes to the board's policies and procedures are in four areas, as follows:

- Consultative process.
 - Currently, board members only solicit feedback on Board of Governors agenda items during consultation with divisional presidential bodies.
 - The consultative process will be amended to require formal recommendations from a divisional presidential body when a Board of Governors matter directly affects a division (e.g., legal, financial).
- Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee (BOGFAC).
 - BOGFAC Composition.
 - Currently, the BOGFAC has six members (not fewer than four members of the BOG or presidential governance bodies; one financial expert appointed by the BOG; and one independent member from the BOG).
 - The board will increase the size of the BOGFAC from six to 11 members to add representatives from Division I that are campus or conference practitioners (e.g., financial experts, athletics directors or conference commissioners). The additional BOGFAC members will be appointed by the Division I Board of Directors.
 - The board will codify that the BOGFAC and the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee shall meet jointly when issues impact Association-wide and Division I budget matters.
- Board of Governors Executive Committee.
 - The board will eliminate the Executive Committee and create a Compensation Subcommittee.
 - The Compensation Subcommittee will oversee the NCAA's Compensation Philosophy for executive compensation.

- The subcommittee will make recommendations to the full Board of Governors.
 - Due to the confidential nature of the information reviewed by the subcommittee, members of the subcommittee should also serve on the Board of Governors.
 - Creation of a Board of Governors Advisory Group with a focus on risk trends affecting higher education and athletics.
 - The advisory group shall have awareness of NCAA and college athletics litigation.
 - The advisory group shall focus its attention on forward-looking issues impacting higher education and college athletics.
 - The Board of Governors shall determine the composition of the advisory group in consultation with the divisional presidential bodies, NCAA president and NCAA Chief Legal Officer.
2. Report of the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee.
- The Board of Governors will finalize the recommended budget requests and recommendations for fiscal year 2025-26.
 - The board will review and act on recommended Association-wide budget allocations to fund a women's acrobatics and tumbling national collegiate championship and a women's stunt national collegiate championship; further, to establish a women's acrobatics and tumbling committee and a women's stunt committee.
 - The board will also move oversight of these budgets to Division I consistent with all other national collegiate championships, effective in fiscal year 2025-26 with the first championships in the 2026-27 academic year.
3. Legal update.
- The Board of Governors will receive an update on legal matters impacting the Association.
 - The divisional presidential bodies will have an opportunity for consultation on legal matters applicable to their respective division or where it is important for them to have visibility on Association legal matters.
4. Evaluation of the NCAA president.
- The Board of Governors will meet in executive session to review the results of its feedback and the feedback from the divisional governing bodies during the annual

evaluation of the NCAA president. It is anticipated that the evaluation process will be completed by the end of August.

5. Board of Governors chair election.

- The board will elect a chair whose term will begin upon adjournment of the August 7, 2025, Board of Governors videoconference.
- Per board policy, the chair and vice chair must represent different divisions.

NCAA Division II Management Council Report
Action Items

At its July 21-22 meeting, the Management Council acted on the following items and recommends that the Executive Board takes the appropriate action, as indicated below.

1. 2026 NCAA Convention Proposals.**a. 2026 Convention Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.4.3 -- Eligibility: Academic and Athletics Requirements -- Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters.**

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2026 Convention to amend the seasons of competition legislation, as follows: (1) To permit a student-athlete to engage in five seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport during their first 10-semester or 15-quarter of full-time enrollment; (2) To specify that any competition, regardless of timing, during the playing season, counts as a season of competition unless a student-athlete is transferring from a non-Division II institution or a Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division II legislation; (3) To eliminate the currently legislated waivers and exceptions associated with the seasons of competition legislation; and (4) To amend the waivers and exceptions for the period of eligibility, to permit waivers in extenuating circumstances, and the following exceptions: service exception (armed services, religious missions or foreign aid services of the U.S. government); academic study abroad exception; internship or cooperative educational work experience program; pregnancy; injury/illness and Olympic training.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2026, for student-athletes who have not exhausted eligibility before or at the conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The Eligibility Review Working group was formed to perform a comprehensive review of eligibility rules. The working group focused on issues surrounding seasons of competition and period of eligibility and developed guiding principles for its review, including using data to make recommendations, developing recommendations consistent with the Life in the Balance Philosophy, and limiting waivers and exceptions as much as possible.

Currently, a Division II student-athlete has four seasons to participate in intercollegiate competition in any one sport and has to complete their four seasons during their first 10-semester or 15-quarter of full-time enrollment.

The Eligibility Review Working Group reviewed Division II Academic Performance Census data regarding time to degree for Division II student-athletes. For student athletes who earned their bachelor's degree during the 2022-23 academic year, 63% of these student athletes graduated in four years or less. An additional 30% graduated between four to five years and only seven percent took more than five years to graduate. When comparing the data with pre-pandemic years, it indicated that student-athletes are taking longer to graduate now (i.e., an increase in percentage of undergrads taking more than four years to graduate), which supported a recommendation for an additional season of competition for all student-athletes. The working group believes that since all student-athletes would be permitted to participate in five seasons of competition, waivers and exceptions to the season of competition rule would not be necessary. In addition to the elimination of waivers and exceptions, the working group agreed that all other competition that currently would not count due to an exception, will count as a season of competition (e.g., participation during the nonchampionship season, participation in an alumni game).

Further, membership feedback received from an initial survey regarding the period of eligibility indicated that three-quarters of respondents believed the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility rule is still appropriate. The working group agreed that the current 10-semester/15-quarter rule allows flexibility for student-athletes who necessitate a break in college attendance that a five-year consecutive clock following initial full-time collegiate enrollment would not provide. Waivers and exceptions to the period of eligibility rule would be available in limited and well-defined instances.

The initial survey also indicated consensus regarding the types of competition that should count as a season of competition. The working group agreed that current legislation regarding transfers from non-Division II institutions and Division III transfer student-athletes that only practice should continue to apply.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Will vary by institution.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Student-athletes will have the opportunity to participate in an additional year of competition.

b. 2026 Convention Legislation -- Various Bylaws -- Division II Championships -- Women's Bowling.

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2026 Convention to establish a Division II Women's Bowling Championship; further, to establish an NCAA Division II Women's Bowling Committee. [See Attachment A for sport-specific legislative recommendations.]

- (2) Effective date. Immediate for establishing the committee. The Division II Women's Bowling Committee would begin its work immediately to prepare for the first NCAA Division II Women's Bowling Championship to occur in April 2028 in accordance with the National Collegiate championships stability policy recently recommended that requires a division-specific championship created from an existing National Collegiate championship to be conducted after two National Collegiate championships have occurred (see Item No. 3 below). The legislative changes would be effective for the 2027-28 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The recommendation is based on membership survey results indicating strong support for establishing a Division II-specific championship from the existing National Collegiate championship. Those results indicated that among those institutions that sponsor women's bowling, there is a strong preference for competing in and winning a Division II championship as opposed to a National Collegiate championship. As of the 2023-24 academic year, 38 Division II institutions sponsor women's bowling, which triggered a review of whether to establish a Division II Women's Bowling Championship. The Division II Legislation Committee previously recommended sport-specific legislation as outlined in the attachment, which the Championships Committee supported. The immediate effective date for the formation of a Division II women's bowling committee will permit the women's bowling committee to begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first Division II championship in April 2028.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Approximately \$300,000. (The recommendation to fund the championship requires review by the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, which next meets in August.)
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation will create the opportunity for Division II student-athletes in women's bowling to compete for a Division II championship.

2. Championships.

a. High-Cost City Per Diem.

- (1) Recommendation. Implement a per diem rate of \$205 for Division II championship competition conducted at sites located in the cities that the NCAA travel staff has identified as high-cost cities.

Anaheim	Boston	Chicago	Hartford (CT)
Honolulu	Los Angeles	Miami (FL)	New York (all boroughs)
Las Vegas	Oakland (CA)	Denver	San Francisco

San Jose (CA)	Santa Barbara (CA)	Seattle	Washington DC
White Plains (NY)			

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. The Championships Committee has discussed whether to implement a high-cost city per diem rate previously and determined that it is appropriate to formally recommend doing so at this time as a way to further help institutions fund their participation in Division II championships. The committee acknowledged that Division II has been careful about selecting high-cost cities as predetermined sites to host championships, but many campuses that host preliminary-round competition are located in or near high-cost cities. The committee also noted that Division I has offered a high-cost city per diem for several years. Divisions II and III do not have a high-cost room rate, but the travel staff has approved, in limited instances, an additional half day per diem when the room rate is unexpectedly high (e.g., high-cost city, graduation weekend, other events in the area increasing demand). However, these costs are currently absorbed within the sport budget.

The committee weighed various increase levels (\$205, \$235 and \$250) and settled on the increase to \$205 to start with and then re-evaluate the rate next year when the committee can determine the impact.

(Note: The committee's discussion of high-cost city per diem also included consideration of implementing a maximum room rate for nonpredetermined preliminary-round sites. The committee chose to recommend only the per diem at this time and continue evaluating the merits of a maximum room rate during future meetings.)

- (4) Estimated budget impact. Approximately \$300,000 (this could vary based on the number of times competition is conducted in a high-cost city). (The recommendation for a high-cost city per diem requires review by the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, which next meets in August.)
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This will help protect the quality of student-athlete experience when championship competition is conducted in a high-cost city.

b. Men's Lacrosse Championship Bracket Expansion/Access Ratio.

- (1) Recommendation. Expand the NCAA Division II Men's Lacrosse Championship bracket from 16 to 18 teams; further, establish men's lacrosse

as an access ratio sport (i.e., allocate bids annually based on an access ratio model).

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The recommendation to expand the bracket satisfies an approved exception to the triennial budget process, as men's lacrosse has nine AQ-eligible conferences and a bracket size of 16, which is higher than the 50% trigger for a bracket expansion review, according to Championships Committee policy. The Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, during its June 23 videoconference, supported the expansion and the accompanying budget allocation.

If the recommended expansion is approved and given the implementation of automatic qualification beginning with the 2025 championship, it is prudent for Division II men's lacrosse to be an access ratio sport to ensure equitable access to the championship while maintaining the natural regions for regular-season competition, which was approved by the Management Council during its July meeting. The Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee will recommend an access distribution based on sport sponsorship annually to the Division II Championships Committee. Under current sport sponsorship, this would result in distribution of eight bids from the North Region (four automatic qualifiers, plus four at-large teams) and 10 bids from the South Region (five automatic qualifiers, plus five at-large teams) for the 2026 championship. That allocation would be confirmed in September 2025 based on sport sponsorship data. This recommendation is similar to what was approved for field hockey, effective for the 2024 championship.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. The mid-range estimate for this expansion is approximately \$90,000 (which was reviewed and recommended by the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee during its June 23 videoconference).
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommended expansion would increase the postseason opportunities for men's lacrosse student-athletes and ensure equitable access to the championship.

c. Division II National Championships Festivals.

- (1) Recommendation. Sunset the Division II National Championships Festivals after completion of the fall championships festival in 2026.
- (2) Effective date. Upon completion of the fall sports festival in 2026.

- (3) Rationale. This recommendation emerged from a discussion of membership survey results indicating waning support for the festivals and the need to make a recommendation in advance of the upcoming bid cycle for championships host sites. The survey feedback indicates that the Division II membership does not believe festivals should continue. Even among those who have attended a festival, no respondent group indicated majority support for hosting a championships festival in any of the three seasons. Support was even less among those who have not attended a festival.

Discussion regarding whether to retain the festivals has been gaining momentum, particularly since softball pulled out of the spring championships festival. While Championships Committee and Management Council members acknowledged the value the festivals have added to the division over time, especially from a branding standpoint, they have become increasingly challenging with site selection, and they also impact the playing and practice seasons in ways many Division II members do not support. In short, the committee and council believe the festivals served a valuable purpose for the division in their time but that as the collegiate sports landscape continues to evolve, they may no longer be as viable as they were in the past.

The committee and council reiterated that the recommendation to sunset the festivals does not impact its commitment to provide outstanding postseason experiences for student-athletes in all sports going forward. Accordingly, the budgets to support the festivals will be reallocated to enhance all Division II student-athlete championship experience in the coming years. The committee and council will consult with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to generate ideas.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. The current annual budget allocation for the festival is \$700,000 for three years and \$200,000 for the fourth year (which was the Men's and Women's Basketball Festival). As part of the previously approved recommendation to eliminate the basketball festival from the rotation, which had been planned for March 2026, the \$200,000 budget was approved to be allocated over the three years of the joint basketball championships to enhance the student-athlete experience.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Allocating the festival budget differently will provide student-athletes in all sports a continued exemplary championship experience.

3. Budget Guidelines and Principles.

- **Policy for Moving a National Collegiate Championship to a Divisional Championship.**

- (1) Recommendation. Amend the Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles to codify a policy to guide the creation of a division-specific championship following the establishment of a National Collegiate Championship that would state that following adoption of a Division II-specific championship from a National Collegiate Championship, its effective date shall be after a minimum of two National Collegiate Championships have taken place in the sport and with at least two years notice provided to the National Collegiate Championship committee and sponsoring members in the sport [Attachment B].
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current Division II championships policy dictates that when a new championship is established, it shall be a National Collegiate Championship for which any active member institution in good standing can be eligible. All divisions then have rules outlining the minimum sponsorship and legislative requirements to establish new division-specific championships. However, these bylaws and policies suggest division-specific independence without considering the resulting impacts on the sport's regular season or the championship administration of the existing National Collegiate Championship. The two-year waiting period is intended to help maintain stability for National Collegiate championships; offer time to properly budget for the divisional championship; and allow the membership time to schedule their regular-season contests and postseason tournaments accordingly. This policy would apply both to newly established and existing National Collegiate Championships. A similar policy was recently adopted by the Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee with notice to Division I.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

Women's Bowling -- Legislation Impacted with Potentially Establishing a Division II Championship

Bylaw 7 -- NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control.

7.3.2 Eligibility for National Collegiate and Division Championships.

7.3.2.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships. [#] An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships, if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution is required to meet only the institutional and individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question. Separate championships in each division are not sponsored in the following sports: (Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)

Women's beach volleyball	Women's ice hockey
Women's bowling	Men's and women's rifle
Men's and women's fencing	Men's and women's skiing
Men's gymnastics	Men's volleyball
Women's gymnastics	Men's and women's water polo

8.8 Common Committees -- Committees With Playing Rules and Championships Administration Responsibilities. [#]

~~8.8.3 Bowling Committee, Women's. [#] The Women's Bowling Committee shall consist of seven members, including the secretary rules editor, who shall be a nonvoting member.~~

Bylaw 17 -- Playing and Practice Seasons.

17.1.4 Sports Subject to Segment Limitations. Playing-season-segment limitations are applicable to all team sports that are listed in Bylaw 17.02.16.1 and all individual sports listed under Bylaw 17.02.16.2. In those sports for which the National Collegiate Championship is the only NCAA championships opportunity (i.e., men's and women's fencing, men's and women's gymnastics, men's and women's rifle, men's and women's skiing, men's volleyball, men's water polo, women's ice hockey, women's water polo, ~~women's bowling~~, women's beach volleyball), an institution's playing season shall be limited to the same length as Division I institutions, and this limitation shall be implied in all following legislative references affecting the sport.

17.6 Bowling, Women's.

17.6.1 Length of Playing Season. The length of an institution's playing season in bowling shall be limited to a 144-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and exclude only required days off per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final-examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.

~~17.6.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in bowling before October 1.~~

17.6.2 Weight Training, Conditioning, Team Activities and/or Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence weight training, conditioning and/or team activities in accordance with Bylaw 17.1.6.3 and practice sessions in bowling before September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes for the fall term (as set forth in its catalog, counting Monday through Friday only), whichever is earlier.

17.6.3 First Date of Competition. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in bowling before ~~October 1~~ September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes for the fall term (as set forth in its catalog, counting Monday through Friday only), whichever is earlier.

17.6.3.1 Exceptions. The following bowling dates of competition may be conducted at any time during the bowling playing and practice season:

(a) Alumni game [see Bylaw 17.6.6.3-(d)];

(b) Fundraising activity [see Bylaw 17.6.6.3-(g)];

(c) Celebrity sports activity [see Bylaw 17.6.6.3-(h)]; and

(d) Discretionary exemptions (see Bylaw 17.6.6.4).

17.6.4 Limitations on Countable Athletically Related Activities and Transportation -- Winter Break. (See Bylaw 17.02.18 for the definition of the winter break.)

17.6.4.1 Countable Athletically Related Activities. A student-athlete shall not participate in any countable athletically related activities during the winter break (see Bylaw 17.02.1).

17.6.4.2 Transportation. An institution shall not provide transportation in conjunction with away-from-home competition during the winter break.

17.6.4.2.1 Exception -- Travel on the First Day of the Winter Break. An institution may travel on the first day of the winter break after an away-from-home competition, provided that is the earliest practical opportunity to return to campus

17.6.5 End of Regular Season. A member institution shall conclude all practice and competition (meets and practice meets) in each segment in bowling by the last date of final examinations for the regular academic year at the institution (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).

17.6.6 Number of Dates of Competition.

17.6.6.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in bowling during the institution's bowling playing season to 32 dates of competition (games and scrimmages), except for those dates of competition excluded under Bylaws 17.6.6.3, 17.6.6.4 and 17.6.6.5 (see Bylaw 7.3.1.7.1.1 for minimum contests and participants requirements).

17.6.6.1.1 In-Season Foreign Competition. A member institution may engage in one or more of its countable dates of competition in bowling in one or more foreign countries on one trip during the prescribed playing season. However, except for competition in Canada and Mexico or on a certified foreign tour (see Bylaw 17.32), the institution may not engage in such in-season foreign competition more than once every four years.

17.6.6.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in 32 dates of competition in bowling (this limitation includes those dates of competition in which the student represents the institution in accordance with Bylaw 17.02.8, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution)

17.6.6.3 Annual Exemptions. The maximum number of dates of competition in bowling shall exclude the following:

(a) **Conference Championships.** Competition in one conference meet in bowling;

(b) **Independents Championship.** Competition in one championship meet or tournament among independent member institutions that are not members of an intercollegiate athletics conference in all sports, or for a specific sport that is not part of a conference, conducted at the end of the championship segment and prior to the NCAA championship;

~~(b) **NCAA Championship.** Competition in the National Collegiate Bowling Championship;~~

(c) **Season-Ending Tournament.** Competition in one season-ending tournament (e.g., NCAA championship, NAIA championship). A season-ending tournament involves competition after the end of the regular season between teams that are not identified until the close of the regular season

(d) **Alumni Meet.** One date of competition each year with an alumni team of the institution;

~~(e) **Foreign Team in United States.** One date of competition each year with a foreign opponent in the United States;~~

(e) **Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Canada.** Any days of competition in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or Canada, respectively, either against or under the sponsorship of an active member institution located in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or Canada by a member institution located outside those locales;

(f) **Fundraising Activity.** Any activities in which student-athletes from more than one of the institution's athletics teams participate with and against alumni and friends of the institution, the purpose of which is to raise funds for the benefit of the institution's athletics or other programs, provided the student-athletes do not miss classes as a result of their participation;

(g) **Celebrity Sports Activity.** Competition involving a limit of two student-athletes from a member institution's team who participate in local celebrity activities in bowling conducted for the purpose of raising funds for charitable organizations, provided:

(1) The student-athletes do not miss classes as a result of the participation; and

(2) The involvement of the student-athletes has the approval of the institution's athletics director; and

(h) **U.S. National Team.** One date of competition against a U.S. national team as selected by the appropriate national governing body in that sport.

17.6.6.4 Discretionary Exemptions. The following may be exempted from an institution's maximum number of dates of competition in bowling each year. An institution may exempt not more than three from this list annually:

(a) **Foreign Team in United States.** A date of competition against a foreign team in the United States played in the facility in which the member institution regularly plays its home dates of competition;

(b) **Non-Division II Four-Year Collegiate Institution.** An exhibition date of competition against non-Division II four-year collegiate institution(s); or

(c) **Scrimmages.** A scrimmage with outside competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.

17.6.6.4.1 Official Scoring. For purposes of Bylaw 17.6.6.4-(c), official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:

(a) The signing of a scorebook by an official; or

(b) The score is used for individual or seasonal statistics.

17.6.6.5 Foreign Tours. The dates of competition on a foreign tour, provided the tour occurs only once in a four-year period and is conducted by the member institution in accordance with the procedures set forth in Bylaw 17.32.

17.6.7 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the institution's declared playing season in accordance with Bylaw 17.6.1, except as permitted in Bylaw 17.1.6.3.

17.6.7.1 Summer Practice. Practice that is organized or financially supported by a member institution shall be prohibited during the summer unless specifically authorized in the bylaws (e.g., foreign tour) or through official interpretations approved by the Management Council. An institution may pay fees associated with the use of institutional practice and competition facilities by student-athletes engaged in voluntary athletically related activities in their sport.

17.6.7.1.1 Vacation Period and Summer-Workout Sessions. A coach may participate in individual-workout sessions with student-athletes from the coach's team during any institutional vacation period and/or the summer, provided the request for such assistance is initiated by the student-athlete.

17.6.8 Camps and Clinics. There are no limits on the number of student-athletes in bowling who may be employed (e.g., as counselors) in camps or clinics (also see Bylaw 13.9). Currently enrolled student-athletes may not participate as campers in their institution's camps or clinics.

17.6.9 Other Restrictions.

17.6.9.1 Noncollegiate, Amateur Competition.

17.6.9.1.1 In Season. A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate competition for the remainder of the season in bowling if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., team invitational meet, exhibition meets or other activity) during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions and waivers).

17.6.9.1.2 Out of Season. There are no limits on the number of student-athletes with eligibility remaining in intercollegiate bowling who may practice or compete out of season on an outside, amateur bowling team.

17.6.9.1.2.1 Involvement of Coaching Staff. No member of the coaching staff of a member institution may be involved in any capacity (e.g., coach, official, player or league/team administrator) during the academic year (including vacation periods during the academic year) with an outside team that involves any student-athlete with eligibility remaining from the institution's bowling team, except as provided under Bylaws 14.4.7.5, 16.8.1.2.1 and 17.32.

17.6.9.1.2.2 Olympic, Paralympic and National Team Development Program. There are no limits on the number of student-athletes from the same institution who may participate in Olympic, Paralympic and national team development programs. Such programs may also include a coach and student-athlete from the same institution.

17.6.9.2 Equipment Issue, Squad Pictures. It shall be permissible to designate a single date for issuing bowling equipment and for taking squad pictures after the beginning of classes in the fall term or the day before the beginning of a segment as specified in Bylaw 17.6.2.

17.6.9.2.1 Exception for Sundays. If the day before the beginning of a segment is a Sunday, the member institution may designate the preceding Saturday for issuing equipment and taking squad pictures

Bylaw 18 -- Championships Administration.

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers 90 national championships. There are ~~44~~**10** National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, ~~25~~**26** Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See Bylaw 9.3.10.2 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (~~44~~10**). [#]**

Men (3)	Men and Women (3)	Women (54)
Gymnastics	Fencing	Beach Volleyball
Volleyball (Divisions I and II)		Bowling
Water Polo	Skiing	Gymnastics
		Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)
		Water Polo

18.3.2 NCAA Division II Championships (~~25~~26**).**

Men (12)	Women (13 14)
Baseball	Basketball
Basketball	Bowling
Cross Country	Cross Country
Football	Field Hockey
Golf	Golf
Lacrosse	Lacrosse
Soccer	Rowing
Swimming and Diving	Soccer
Tennis	Softball
Indoor Track and Field	Swimming and Diving
Outdoor Track and Field	Tennis
Wrestling	Indoor Track and Field
	Outdoor Track and Field
	Volleyball

Figure 8-2
Division II Sports Committee Membership

Committee	Number of Members
Baseball Committee	8
Basketball Committee, Men's	8
Basketball Committee, Women's	8
Bowling, Women's	4
Cross Country Committee, Men's and Women's	8, four members shall represent men's cross country interests and four members shall represent women's cross country interests with three positions allocated for those who identify as male, three positions allocated for those who identify as female, and two positions unallocated. There shall be one representative elected from each of the Division II cross country regions.
Field Hockey Committee	4
Football Committee	8, consisting of two representatives from each of the four Division II football regions and each member shall represent a different member conference or independent institution.
Golf Committee, Men's	4
Golf Committee, Women's	4
Lacrosse Committee, Men's	4, Each of the Division II lacrosse regions shall be represented.
Lacrosse Committee, Women's	4, consisting of equal representation from each region
Rowing Committee, Women's	3
Soccer Committee, Men's	8
Soccer Committee, Women's	8
Softball Committee, Women's	8
Swimming and Diving Committee, Men's and Women's	5, two members shall represent men's swimming and diving interests and two members shall represent women's swimming and diving interests with one position allocated for someone who identifies as male, and one position allocated for someone who identifies as female with one additional member representing diving interest.

**Women's Bowling -- Legislation Impacted with Potentially
Establishing a Division II Championship**
Page No. 8

Tennis Committee, Men's and Women's	8, consisting of three positions allocated for those who identify as male, three positions allocated for those who identify as female and two unallocated positions.
Track and Field Committee, Men's and Women's	8, four members shall represent men's track and field interests and four members shall represent women's track and field interests with three positions allocated for those who identify as male, three positions allocated for those who identify as female, and two positions unallocated. There shall be one representative elected from each of the Division II track and field regions*
Volleyball Committee, Women's	8
Wrestling Committee, Men's	4

* The Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee shall be responsible for the Division II indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field championships. (See Bylaw 18 for committee duties related to the administration of championships.)

Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles

In accordance with NCAA Article 3 (finance), Division II is guaranteed revenue through allocations made to each division from the Association's general operating revenue; and Division II shall receive at least 4.37 percent of the Association's annual general operating revenue, as agreed on January 9, 1996.

The NCAA Division II Executive Board, Management Council and Strategic Planning and Finance Committee are committed to developing budgetary principles/guidelines that are reflective of the NCAA mission and principles and the Division II philosophy, strategic positioning platform and strategic plan. These principles/guidelines will be used to guide any deliberations that may occur related to the possible use of funds allocated to Division II.

These principles/guidelines include the following:

1. That budget decisions will be made to support the Division II strategic positioning platform and the strategic positioning outcome areas outlined in the Division II strategic plan, including, but not limited to, academics and life skills; athletics operations and compliance; diversity and inclusion; game day and conference and national championships; and membership and positioning initiatives.
2. That as budget discussions occur and decisions are made, funding championships will remain a priority to ensure the best possible championship experience for Division II student-athletes.
3. That an institution's expenses for participating in championship rounds of NCAA Division II championships will be covered, as prescribed by the Division II Championships Committee and championships policies and procedures, and that consistent transportation and per diem guidelines will be maintained for all Division II championships.
4. That Division II championships policies will reflect an interest in generating Division II championships revenue to the greatest extent possible, consistent with Division II championships principles and guidelines. Further, Division II championship policies will reflect an overall cost-containment philosophy supporting initiatives, such as the regionalization concept. For purposes of these budget principles, cost containment encompasses the efficient and cost-effective operation of Division II championships.
5. That the Division II Championships Committee shall initially approve any budget request from a sports committee. Sport committees should collaborate where appropriate across genders when making requests. The Championships Committee review process of budget requests should ensure that any gender difference across sports are necessary, appropriate and equitable. The Division II Executive Board shall have final approval.
6. That Division II championships shall operate on the following budget timeline to ensure a manageable approach to proposed championships adjustments:

Annual Budget Process:

- Increases to per diem.

- Increases to travel budget.

Triennial Budget Process:

- Increases to committee expenses.
- Increases to game operations.
- Championships enhancements (e.g., bracket/field size expansion, travel party increases, officiating fees increases).

A triennial budget process for the items above allows the division to make strategic decisions versus immediate reaction to items brought forth by the committees and keeps the division in alignment with the long-range budget determined for the division. The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee shall, however, have the ability to address certain items outside of the triennial budget process and recommend any such items to the Management Council and Executive Board, which allows the division to address any immediate needs related to championships that may come forth between budget proposal years. These items include:

- a. Issues related to gender equity;
- b. Issues related to health and safety;
- c. Adding a new Division II championship once a sport meets the minimum sponsorship of 35 institutions;
- d. Championship bracket adjustments, provided a championships policy has been triggered (e.g., potential expansion when a sports' current bracket exceeds the 50 percent AQ threshold, or the sponsorship of the sport places the access ratio outside the legislated 4.25 to 6);
- e. Technology (e.g., video replay, web streaming requirements); and
- f. Officiating expenses (e.g., adjusting fees to attract quality officials, officiating needs due to playing rules changes).

Decisions regarding whether a budget request needs to be made outside of the triennial budget cycle should be made in consultation with necessary subject matter experts (e.g., Office of Inclusion, Sport Science Institute, championships staff).

Finally, the result of considering expense allocations outside of the triennial process is that if they are approved, those dollars would be pulled from the budget that is otherwise available at the start of the next cycle for championships enhancements.

7. Following adoption of a Division II-specific championship from a National Collegiate Championship, its effective date shall be after a minimum of two National Collegiate Championships have taken place in the sport and with at least two years notice provided to the National Collegiate Championship committee and sponsoring members in the sport.

8. For revenue distribution and other initiatives, the division shall operate on an annual budget process. The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, Management Council and Executive Board may review such budget requests prior to final approval by the Executive Board. [Note that in some instances it may be necessary to use the legislative process.]

89. That there will be an annual distribution of funds to Division II institutions and conferences via the approved Division II Revenue Distribution Policy. The formula(s) shall include a principal goal of strengthening conference and institutional operations.

For the 2024-25 Fiscal Year, the total budget for the distribution will be \$8,167,933, distributed as follows:

- a. Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund: \$6,125,950; and
- b. Institutional Equal Distribution Fund: \$2,041,983.

910. That the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee will be responsible for the mechanics of distributing the revenue distribution, and the distribution policy will be reviewed annually by the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.

110. That the Division II cash reserve maintains a balance of at least 60 percent of the operating revenue for the division. The balance shall include the prior year's cash reserve and the current year's budget surplus.

124. That the Division II Administrative Committee shall be gathered to address issues in light of an unexpected event to determine the use of Division II insurance and reserve dollars. As needed, the Administrative Committee will seek input from the Division II Executive Board and NCAA Board of Governors. Further, the division shall prioritize expenses in the following order:

- a. Contractual obligations.
- b. Championships.
 - (1) Bracket reduction.
 - (2) Experience monies.
 - (a) Game experience.
 - (i) Official's assignments and fees.
 - (ii) Practice days and/or days off between competition days.
 - (iii) Web stream.
 - (iv) Marketing and promotion.

- (v) Signage.
 - (b) Student-athlete experience.
 - (i) Trophies.
 - (ii) Awards (participant medallions).
 - (iii) Banquets.
 - (iv) Mementos (jackets, for example).
 - (v) Watches.
 - (3) Adjustment of regional sites.
 - (4) Reduction of per diem.
 - c. Revenue distribution.
 - d. Conference strategic priorities fund.
 - e. Strategic initiatives.
- | 132. That the use of the annual operating surpluses from the previous fiscal year will be adopted each year by the Executive Board.
- | 143. That the division (including colleges, universities and conferences) shall commit to fiscal responsibility at the local, conference, regional and national levels and that the division shall be held accountable for spending its dollars in a fiscally responsible manner. To that end, the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee has the authority to audit dollars allocated to Division II institutions and conferences from the Division II budget, including, but not limited to, sports sponsorship requirements of Division II member conferences.
- | 154. That care will be taken to avoid funding special interests of various segments of the Division II membership or items that may be more an institution's or conference's responsibility than that of the Association or the division.
- | 165. That Division II will follow the Association's request for proposal (RFP) process when the division has specific vendor relationships and/or consultant needs.
- | 176. That these budget principles will be reviewed annually by the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, Management Council and Executive Board and modified as necessary to ensure that they are reflective of the Division II philosophy, strategic positioning platform and strategic plan. The Executive Board has ultimate authority to approve the modifications to these guidelines and principles.

Approved January 2025 by the Division II Executive Board.

NCAA Division II Management Council Report
Informational Items

1. Governance-Sponsored Proposals for the 2026 NCAA Convention.

- a. **Proposal Approved in Legislative Form.** The Management Council approved NCAA Proposal No. 2026-1 (women's flag football as an emerging sport) in legislative form for a vote at the 2026 Convention, which can be found in Attachment A.
- b. **Proposals Approved in Concept.** The Management Council agreed to sponsor the following proposals in concept for the 2026 Convention:
 - (1) **2026 Convention Legislation – NCAA Division II Bylaws 18.4.3.1-(c) and 18.4.3.1-(d) -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Criteria for Selection in Team Sports -- Required Selection Criteria and Sport-Specific Selection Criteria – NCAA Power Index.**
 - (a) Recommendation. Legislation for the 2026 Convention to specify that Division II team sports shall use the NCAA Power Index (NPI) for selections beginning with the 2026-27 academic year.
 - (b) Effective date. August 1, 2026.
 - (c) Rationale. The NPI, which has been used in Division I and Division III men's ice hockey for several years and which Division III adopted last year for all team sport committees to use, is a system of statistical data that objectively applies the selection criteria to the data based on a sport committee's established weighted criteria. The NPI is a combination of winning percentage; strength of schedule; home-away multiplier; quality win bonus; and overtime results (when relevant). The metric can be adjusted by what are referred to as "dials," or specific components of the metric that each sport committee has the authority to set, thus placing any desired subjectivity within the criteria themselves that are then applied objectively. The Division II Championships Committee has discussed the merits of the NPI at length over the past year and has gathered feedback from sport committees and other membership stakeholders indicating strong support for using the metric as the sole selection criterion for team sports. Because selections would be based solely on the NPI data, teams would no longer be required to have a .500 record or higher to be considered for selections. Additionally, Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) would be eliminated if the proposal is adopted.

- (d) Estimated budget impact. \$10,000 for a contractor to meet with sport committees to establish sport-specific dials. [Note: This funding was previously approved by the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee in December 2024.]
- (e) Student-athlete impact. The NPI helps ensure that the correct teams are selected for championship participation.

(2) Acrobatics and Tumbling as a National Collegiate Championship Sport.

- (a) Recommendation. Legislation to add acrobatics and tumbling as a National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a women's acrobatics and tumbling committee.
- (b) Effective date. Immediate. The acrobatics and tumbling committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first National Collegiate Championship in spring 2027.
- (c) Rationale. Acrobatics and tumbling has been an emerging sport in all three divisions since 2020. In spring of 2025, based on unofficial data during a staff review, 44 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports-sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate Championship status. The number of schools participating in the 2024-25 academic year will be verified through official NCAA Sports-Sponsorship and Participation data, which will be finalized by the NCAA research staff in summer 2025. Additionally, 46 programs indicated sponsoring acrobatics and tumbling during the 2024-25 academic year, which demonstrates additional participation. It is anticipated that the announcement of sponsoring an NCAA championship would continue to drive membership interest in the sport.

After consultation with various committees in the NCAA governance structure and a financial and championship examination of projected costs to establish a new National Collegiate Championship, the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics agreed acrobatics and tumbling should be added as an NCAA championship.

The sport has continued to grow in the collegiate space and has received continued interest in the youth/K-12 level from related sports. Acrobatics and tumbling has a diverse recruiting pool of student-athletes competing in gymnastics, cheerleading, diving, dance and weightlifting, among other sports. The sport attracts a wide variety of athletes from socioeconomic and racial backgrounds. This pool has created more participation opportunities for women

with over 1,100 student-athletes competing in 2023-24 across all three divisions. The sport also has a high percentage of women coaches and officials. The CWA strongly recommends all three divisions to sponsor and adopt the sport as a National Collegiate Championship.

- (d) Estimated budget impact. A budget estimate of up to \$2 million to establish the sport committee and fund the championship annually is based on several factors including the total number of participants and other travel party members, the total length of competition and estimates for game expenses (event operations, officials fees, etc.). The budget estimate will be reevaluated once the sport committee is established, and it makes a final determination on championship structure. This figure includes assumptions for direct and host operational expenses, broadcast, team travel, committee expenses, and championship staffing and travel.

[Note: The budget is contingent upon approval by the NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee and Board of Governors during their July/August 2025 meetings and must account for the net asset impact of all consolidated future initiatives.]

- (e) Student-athlete impact. Provides a new championship opportunity to women athletes in all three divisions and elevates their current varsity programs to the NCAA championship level.

(3) Stunt as a National Collegiate Championship Sport.

- (a) Recommendation. Legislation to add stunt as a National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a women's stunt committee.
- (b) Effective date. Immediate. The stunt committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first National Collegiate Championship in spring 2027.
- (c) Rationale. Stunt has been an emerging sport in Division I and Division II since August 2023, and Division III since August 2024. In spring of 2025, based on unofficial data during a staff review, 41 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate Championship status. The number of schools participating in the 2024-25 academic year will be verified through official NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Participation data, which will be finalized by the NCAA research staff in summer 2025. Additionally, while 40 programs indicated sponsoring stunt prior to

the 2024-25 academic year, at least 45 sponsored the sport, demonstrating additional growth opportunities for future years. It is anticipated that the announcement of sponsoring an NCAA championship would continue to drive membership interest in the sport.

After consultation with various committees in the NCAA governance structure and a financial and championship examination of projected costs to establish a new National Collegiate Championship, CWA agreed stunt should be added as an NCAA championship.

As the newest emerging sport, stunt has grown rapidly both in the collegiate space and in the youth/K-12 level with increased stunt competition opportunities around the country. Stunt has a high number of student-athletes from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds and ethnicities competing on teams at NCAA schools, which has created more participation opportunities for women within the NCAA. In 2023-24, a total of 704 student-athletes competed in stunt in Divisions I and II (it was not yet an emerging sport in Division III). The 2024-25 athlete participation numbers will be updated in summer 2025. The sport also has a high percentage of women coaches and officials.

- (d) Estimated budget impact. A budget estimate of up to \$1.9 million to establish the sport committee and fund the championship annually is based on several factors including the total number of participants and other travel party members, the total length of competition and estimates for game expenses (event operations, officials fees, etc.). The budget estimate will be reevaluated once the sport committee is established and it makes a final determination on championship structure. This figure includes assumptions for direct and host operational expenses, broadcast, team travel, committee expenses, and championship staffing and travel.

[Note: The budget is contingent upon approval by the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee and Board of Governors during their July/August 2025 meetings and must account for the net asset impact of all consolidated future initiatives.]

- (e) Student-athlete impact. Provides a new championship opportunity to women athletes in all three divisions and elevates their current varsity programs to the NCAA championship level.

2. Membership-Sponsored Proposals for the 2026 Convention—Committee Review. In accordance with NCAA Bylaw 9.3.7 (committee review – legislation), an appropriate NCAA

committees shall evaluate all legislative proposals submitted by the membership before they can be included on the agenda for an NCAA Convention. Under Bylaw 9.3.7.1 (committee designation), the Executive Board designated that the Management Council shall assign each proposal to the appropriate committee(s) for evaluation.

The Management Council referred the following proposals for a position:

a. Recruiting -- Definitions and Applications -- Football Recruiting Dead Period.

Intent: In football, to specify the following as recruiting dead periods: (1) December 22-January 1; (2) Monday through Wednesday during the week of the annual convention of the American Football Coaches Association Convention; and (3) Saturday prior to Memorial Day through Memorial Day.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Division II Football Committee and Division II Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

b. Financial Aid -- Eligibility for Athletics Aid -- Eligibility of Student-Athletes for Athletics Aid -- Retroactive Athletics Aid -- Issuance of Retroactive Athletics Aid.

Intent: To permit an institution to provide retroactive athletics aid during an academic year.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

c. Playing and Practice Seasons -- General Playing-Season Regulations -- Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities -- Daily and Weekly Hour Limitations -- Nonchampionship Segment.

Intent: In baseball, to limit a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities to a maximum of four hours per day and 18 hours per week during the nonchampionship segment; further, to specify that an intrasquad scrimmage may exceed the four hours per day provided the student-athlete does not exceed the 18 hours per week limit during the nonchampionship segment.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Division II Baseball Committee, NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport and Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

d. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Baseball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional -- Student-Athlete.

Intent: In baseball, to increase the institutional and student-athlete playing season maximum limitation to 52 contests (games and scrimmages).

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Baseball Committee, Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport and Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

e. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Basketball -- First Permissible Contest.

Intent: In basketball, to specify to specify that a school's first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition cannot occur prior to the Monday that is 17 weeks before the Division II men's and women's championship selection dates.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Committees, Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport and Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

f. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Basketball -- Number of Contests -- Annual Exemptions -- Region Challenge Event -- Out-Of-Region Opponents From Contiguous States.

Intent: In basketball, to permit contests against an out-of-region opponent from a contiguous state to be exempted as part of a region challenge event.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Men's and Women's Basketball Committees and Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

g. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Golf -- Number of Dates of Competition -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional -- Student- Athlete.

Intent: In golf, to increase the institutional and student-athlete playing season maximum limitation to 24 dates of competition; further, to specify that an institution may participate in no more than 10 regular-season events.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees and Legislation Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

h. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Soccer -- Preseason Practice and First Date of Practice -- Championship Segment.

Intent: In soccer, to specify that preseason practice shall begin with a four-day acclimatization period for both first-time participants and continuing student-athletes; further, to specify that an institution shall not commence practice sessions

before 21 days before the first permissible contest or nine days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Legislation Committee and Division II Men's and Women's Soccer Committees for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

i. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Nonchampionship Segment.

Intent: In softball, to specify that an institution or student-athlete shall limit its playing season to 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship and four dates of competition (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Legislation Committee and Division II Softball Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

j. Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships -- Exemption for Women's Field Hockey and Women's Rowing.

Intent: To exempt women's field hockey and women's rowing from maintaining the minimum number of sponsoring institutions required to maintain a Division II championship.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Division II Championships Committee, Division II Women's Field Hockey Committee and Division II Rowing Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

k. Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Automatic Qualification -- Requirements -- Division Championship -- Institutions in Final Year of Division II Membership Process.

Intent: To permit conferences to count institutions in the final year of the membership process towards the minimum of six institutions needed to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for automatic qualification.

The Management Council referred this proposal to the Championships Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

3. **Championships Committee**

- a. **Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaws 8.5 and 8.7 -- Organizational Structure and Committees -- Playing Rules Oversight Panel and Rules Committees Without Championships Administration Responsibilities – Establishment of New Playing Rules Structure and Process.** The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to establish a new playing rules structure and process for Division II, as outlined. [Attachment B]

Given that Division I is revising its governance structure, including how playing rules will be administered, Divisions II and III are required to establish their own playing rules structures. Playing rules currently are managed Association-wide through the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) that includes representatives from all three divisions and provides instances in which playing rules can be federated if desired. That will change once Division I approves a new governance structure to accommodate the recently finalized settlement that impacts how the division operates going forward. The structure in Attachment B outlines a Playing Rules Oversight Panel for Divisions II and III as well as rules committees by sport for both divisions, including composition requirements and duties. The Management Council will have oversight over the playing rules process/structure for the division.

- b. **Football Championship Date Formula.** The Management Council voted against a recommendation to amend the Division II Football Championship date formula, which would have moved the title game to the first week of January, effective for the 2027 season. During its discussion, the council noted lack of support for this change from Division II football student-athletes, as well as the Division II Football Committee. In addition, the Management Council noted the importance of week zero in providing additional scheduling opportunities that have a positive financial impact, as well as concerns about the length of the season if week zero was maintained and the championship was moved to January.

4. **Legislation Committee – Update Regarding Direct Institutional Name, Image and Likeness.** The Management Council was provided with an update on the Legislation Committee's discussion regarding direct institutional name, image and likeness. Specifically, the committee discussed whether an institution and third-party should be permitted to enter into NIL agreements with Division II student-athletes, and whether disclosure is appropriate for NIL deals that are \$600 or more. The committee agreed that membership feedback should be collected to determine whether a legislative change is necessary.

The committee also reviewed and approved draft feedback questions specific to direct institutional NIL. Further, the committee directed staff to seek feedback from the Athletics Directors Association, Coaches Connection groups, Conference Commissioners Association, Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators, Championships

Committee, Membership Committee and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The committee will review the feedback during its November 17-18, 2025, meeting.

5. **Division II Membership Committee – Institutions in the Membership Process.** The Management Council noted that the Membership Committee had taken the following actions with regard to institutions in the membership process.
- a. **Move the following institutions to active member status, effective September 1, 2025:**
 - (1) Jessup University;
 - (2) Thomas More University;
 - (3) University of South Carolina Beaufort; and
 - (4) Vanguard University.
 - b. **Move the following institutions to provisional year three, effective September 1, 2025:**
 - (1) Roosevelt University; and
 - (2) Sul Ross State University.
 - c. **Move the following institution to provisional year two, effective September 1, 2025:**
 - Point Park University.
 - d. **Require the following institution to repeat provisional year two, effective September 1, 2025:**
 - Menlo College.
 - e. **Move the following institutions to expedited provisional year two, effective September 1, 2025:**
 - (1) University of California, Merced;
 - (2) University of Jamestown; and
 - (3) University of Texas at Dallas.
 - f. **Approved the application of the following institution to enter provisional year one, effective September 1, 2025:**

- Middle Georgia State University.

6. **Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.**

- a. **2024-25 Year to Date Budget-to-Actual Report.** The Management Council reviewed the year-to-date budget-to-actual report contained in Attachment C.
- b. **Division II Long-Range Budget -- Allocation of New Division II Revenue and Reserves.** The Management Council was provided with an update that the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee continued discussing the Division II long-range budget and reviewed models that staff created for allocating new revenue and existing reserves based on the committee's previous consideration. The review is a critical component to continuing to build the new Division II Operating Plan with initiatives, timelines and financial allocations. The models the committee considered during this meeting reflected potentially increasing the division's allocation to the championships program from the current 62 percent to 65, 70 or 75 percent. After discussion, most committee members supported the model that allocates 65 percent to championships [Attachment D], as that provides an immediate increase without compromising the division's ability to increase revenue distribution, fund other initiatives, and maintain its reserve policy. While there also was consideration for the model that increases the championships allocation to 70 percent [Attachments E and F], it was acknowledged that this would require either reducing current allocations to Division II initiatives, or not meeting the reserve policy by 2030-31. Accordingly, the committee asked staff to inform the Management Council and Executive Board that while the majority of the committee favors the 65-percent model, the 70-percent model merits discussion as well.

7. **Update on Sports Wagering.** The Management Council was provided with next steps and timeline for each division on the potential deregulation of sport wagering legislation as it relates to professional sports. The Council agreed to table until October a legislative recommendation that would permit student-athletes and staff members to bet on professional sports and refocus the Association's enforcement efforts on college sports betting and behaviors that directly impact game integrity.

The Council approved amending the Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee's guidelines specific to wagering on professional sports to provide relief that no longer includes mandatory withholding from competition or repayment.

8. **Update on Division II Operating Plan and Discussions Related to Division I and Division III.** The Management Council received an update regarding the development of the Division II operating plan. The council noted that during its June meeting, the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee reviewed a draft of the 2026-32 Division II Operating Plan that includes potential action steps and timelines based on input from the Division II Think Tank conducted last fall and subsequent feedback from membership stakeholders, including the comprehensive membership survey that was conducted after the 2025 NCAA

Convention. The Management Council reviewed each of the five operating areas – Academics, Athletics, Health and Wellness, Governance, and Operations and Positioning Initiatives – and offered input for the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee to continue its discussions. The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee will review the feedback from the Management Council and Executive Board during its August meeting and take steps accordingly to finalize the recommended plan by the end of its September meeting. The new plan will be launched at the 2026 Convention.

The Management Council also received an update from vice presidents of Divisions I and III on work happening in their respective divisions. The Division I update comprised information regarding the implementation of the settlement, including the number of institutions opting in and the College Sports Commission purview; the Division I Decision-Making Working Group efforts; the streamlined Division I governance structure and membership discussions. The Division III update comprised information regarding championships, membership; mental health program; health and safety grant; and the athletics communications working group.

Governance-Sponsored Legislation for the 2026 NCAA Convention

Proposal Number: 2026-1

Title: NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, FINANCIAL AID AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN -- WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

Convention Year: 2026

Date Submitted: April 16, 2025

Status: Ready for Consideration by Management Council

Effective Date: Immediate

Source: NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).

Category: Governance-Sponsored

Topical Area: Membership and Institutional Control

Intent: To add women's flag football as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to membership, financial aid and playing and practice seasons, as specified.

A. Bylaws: Amend 7.02.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.02.2 Emerging Sports for Women. The following shall be considered emerging sports for women:

(a) Team Sports: acrobatics and tumbling, **flag football**, rugby and stunt; and

[7.02.2-(b) unchanged.]

[7.02.2.1 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 7.3.1.7, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.3.1.7.1.1.6 Contests Versus Club Teams. A contest against a collegiate institution's club team may not be counted toward meeting minimum-contest requirements. However, a member is not precluded from scheduling club teams.

[7.3.1.7.1.1.6.1 unchanged.]

7.3.1.7.1.1.6.2 Exception -- Women's Flag Football. In women's flag football, an institution may count up to three contests per year against collegiate club teams toward meeting minimum contest requirements.

C. Bylaws: Amend 7.3.1.7.1.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.3.1.7.1.1 Minimum Contests and Participants Requirements for Sports Sponsorship. In each sport, the institution's team shall engage in at least a minimum number of intercollegiate contests (against four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions) each year. In the individual sports and acrobatics and tumbling, the institution's team shall include a minimum number of participants in each contest that is counted toward meeting the minimum-contest requirement. The following minimums are applicable:

Governance-Sponsored Legislation for the 2026 NCAA Convention

Team Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants	Individual Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants
Acrobatics and Tumbling	6	18	Women's Bowling	8	5
Baseball	24		Cross Country	4	5
Basketball	22		Equestrian	6	12
Beach Volleyball	8		Men's Fencing	6	5
Field Hockey	10		Women's Fencing	6	5
<u>Women's Flag Football</u>	<u>12</u>				
Football	9		Golf	7	4
Men's Ice Hockey	20		Men's Gymnastics	6	6
Women's Ice Hockey	20		Women's Gymnastics	6	5
Men's Lacrosse	10		Rifle	8	4
Women's Lacrosse	10		Skiing	5	5
Women's Rowing	6		Swimming and Diving	8	9
Women's Rugby	9		Tennis	10	5
Soccer	10		Track and Field, Indoor	4	10
Softball	24		Track and Field, Outdoor	4	10
Stunt	8	16	Men's Wrestling	9	6
Men's Volleyball	9		Women's Wrestling	9	6
Women's Volleyball	15		Women's Triathlon	4	3
Men's Water Polo	15				
Women's Water Polo	10				

[7.3.1.7.1.1.1 through 7.3.1.7.1.1.11 unchanged.]

Governance-Sponsored Legislation for the 2026 NCAA Convention

D. Bylaws: Amend 15.4.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

15.4.2 Equivalency Sports.

[15.4.2.1 unchanged.]

15.4.2.1.2 Women's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per Bylaw 15.2.1) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in each women's sport, as follows:

Acrobatics and Tumbling	9.0	Rowing	20.0
Basketball	10.0	Rugby	12.0
Beach Volleyball	5.0	Skiing	6.3
Bowling	5.0	Soccer	9.9
Cross Country/Track and Field (see Bylaw 15.4.2.1.4 for institutions that sponsor cross country but not indoor or outdoor track and field)	12.6	Softball	7.2
Equestrian	15.0	Stunt	9.0
Flag Football	10.0		
Fencing	4.5	Swimming and Diving	8.1
Field Hockey	6.3	Tennis	6.0
Golf	5.4	Triathlon	5.0
Gymnastics	6.0	Volleyball	8.0
Ice Hockey	18.0	Water Polo	8.0
Lacrosse	9.9	Wrestling	10.0

[15.4.2.1.3 through 15.4.2.1.4 unchanged.]

[15.4.2.2 unchanged.]

E. Bylaws: Amend 17, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17 Playing and Practice Seasons

[17.01 through 17.02 unchanged.]

17.02.16 Varsity Intercollegiate Sport. A varsity intercollegiate sport is a sport that has been accorded that status by the institution's president or chancellor or committee responsible for intercollegiate athletics policy and that satisfies the following conditions:

[17.02.16-(a) through 17.02.16-(c) unchanged.]

17.02.16.1 Team Sports. The following are classified as team sports for purposes of this bylaw:

Acrobatics and Tumbling	Rowing, Women's
Baseball	Rugby, Women's
Basketball	Soccer
Beach Volleyball	Softball
Field Hockey	Stunt
Flag Football, Women's	
Football	Volleyball

Governance-Sponsored Legislation for the 2026 NCAA Convention

Ice Hockey, Men's and Women's Water Polo, Men's and Women's

Lacrosse

[17.02.16.2 unchanged.]

[17.02.17 through 17.02.18 unchanged.]

[17.1 through 17.10 unchanged.]

17.11 Flag Football, Women's. Regulations for computing the women's flag football playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1 and Figure 17-2).

17.11.1 Length of Playing Season. The length of an institution's playing season in women's flag football shall be limited to a 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each with consecutive days) and which may exclude only required off days per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final-examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.

17.11.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's flag football prior to September 1 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

17.11.3 First Contest. A member institution shall not engage in its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in women's flag football prior to September 1 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

17.11.4 End of Regular Playing Season. A member institution shall conclude all practice and competition by Memorial Day (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).

17.11.5 Number of Contests.

17.11.5.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in women's flag football during the institution's flag football playing season to 24 contests (games and scrimmages), except for those contests excluded under Bylaws 17.11.5.3, 17.11.5.4 and 14.4.7.5.

17.11.5.1.1 In-Season Foreign Competition. A member institution may play one or more of its countable contests in women's flag football in one or more foreign countries on one trip during the prescribed playing season. However, except for contests played in Canada and Mexico or on a certified foreign tour (see Bylaw 17.33), the institution may not engage in such in-season foreign competition more than once every four years.

17.11.5.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in 24 contests in women's flag football. This limitation includes those contests in which the student-athlete represents the institution in accordance with Bylaw 17.02.8, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution.

17.11.5.3 Annual Exemptions. The maximum number of contests in women's flag football shall exclude the following:

(a) Conference Championship. Competition in one conference championship tournament in women's flag football;

(b) National Governing Body Championship. Competition in the flag football national governing body championship;

(c) Alumni Contest. One contest each year against an alumni team of the institution;

(d) Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Canada. Any women's flag football contest played in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or Canada, respectively, either against or under the sponsorship of an active member institution located in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or Canada, by a member institution located outside the area in question;

Governance-Sponsored Legislation for the 2026 NCAA Convention

- (e) U.S. National Team. One contest against a U.S. national team as selected by the appropriate national governing body for women's flag football;
- (f) Fundraising Activity. Any activities in which student-athletes from more than one of the institution's athletics teams participate with and against alumni and friends of the institution, the purpose of which is to raise funds to benefit the institution's athletics or other programs, provided the student-athletes do not miss class as a result of their participation; and
- (g) Celebrity Sports Activity. Competition involving a maximum of two student-athletes from a member institution's team who participate in local celebrity activities in women's flag football conducted for the purpose of raising funds for charitable organizations, provided:
 - (1) The student-athletes do not miss class as a result of the participation; and
 - (2) The involvement of the student-athletes has the approval of the institution's athletics director.

17.11.5.4 Discretionary Exemptions. The following may be exempted from an institution's maximum number of contests in women's flag football each year. An institution may exempt not more than three from this list annually:

- (a) Foreign Team in United States. A contest against a foreign team in the United States played in the facility in which the member institution regularly plays its home contests;
- (b) Non-Division II Four-Year Collegiate Institution. An exhibition contest against a non-Division II four-year collegiate institution; or
- (c) Scrimmages. A scrimmage with outside competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.

17.11.5.4.1 Official Scoring. For purposes of Bylaw 17.11.5.4-(c), official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:

- (a) The signing of a scorebook by an official; or
- (b) The score is used for individual or seasonal statistics.

17.11.5.5 Once-in-Four-Year Exemption -- Foreign Tours. An institution may exempt the contests played on a foreign tour, provided the tour occurs only once in a four-year period and is conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in Bylaw 17.33.

17.11.6 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the institution's declared playing season per Bylaw 17.11.1, except as permitted in Bylaw 17.1.6.3.

17.11.6.1 Summer Practice. Practice that is organized or financially supported by a member institution shall be prohibited during the summer unless specifically authorized in the bylaws (e.g., foreign tour) or through official interpretations approved by the Management Council. An institution may pay fees associated with the use of institutional practice and competition facilities by student-athletes engaged in voluntary athletically related activities in their sport.

17.11.7 Camps and Clinics. There are no limits on the number of student-athletes in women's flag football who may be employed (e.g., as counselors) in camps or clinics (see Bylaw 13.9). Currently enrolled student-athletes may not participate as campers in their institution's camps or clinics.

17.11.8 Other Restrictions.

17.11.8.1 Noncollegiate, Amateur Competition.

17.11.8.1.1 In Season. A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate women's flag football competition for the remainder of the season if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate women's flag football squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of any outside women's flag football team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., team invitational meets, exhibition

Governance-Sponsored Legislation for the 2026 NCAA Convention

meets or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate women's flag football season that ends with the national governing body championship (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions and waivers).

17.11.8.1.1.1 Exception -- Olympic, Paralympic and National Team Development Program. A student-athlete may participate in Olympic, Paralympic and national team development programs while a member of an intercollegiate women's flag football squad or team and during the segment that concludes with a season-ending tournament. Such programs may also include a coach and student-athlete from the same institution provided:

(a) The national governing body conducts and administers the development program; and

(b) The national governing body selects the coaches involved in the development program.

17.11.8.1.2 Out of Season. There are no limits on the number of student-athletes with eligibility remaining in intercollegiate women's flag football who may practice or compete out of season on an outside, amateur women's flag football team.

17.11.8.1.2.1 Involvement of Coaching Staff. No member of the coaching staff of a member institution may be involved in any capacity (e.g., coach, official, player or league/team administrator) at any time (i.e., during the academic year, vacation periods and summer) with an outside team that involves any student-athlete with remaining eligibility from that institution's women's flag football team, except as provided under Bylaws 14.4.7.5, 16.8.1.3.1 and 17.33.

17.11.8.1.2.2 Olympic, Paralympic and National Team Development Program. There are no limits on the number of student-athletes from the same institution who may participate in Olympic, Paralympic and national team development programs. Such programs may also include a coach and student-athlete from the same institution.

17.11.8.2 Equipment Issue, Squad Pictures. It shall be permissible to designate a single date for issuing women's flag football equipment and for taking squad pictures after the beginning of classes in the fall term or the day before the beginning of a segment as specified in Bylaw 17.11.2.

[17.11 through 17.33 renumbered as 17.12 through 17.34, unchanged.]

Rationale: The continued growth in high school women's flag football and the number of collegiate institutions sponsoring the sport demonstrate the rapid growth of the sport and its potential to reach NCAA championship status at the collegiate level. Enough women's flag football teams met the prescribed guidelines of the Emerging Sports for Women Program application to demonstrate significant interest and sustainability within college athletics. Additionally, the sport is relatively inexpensive to sponsor and attracts additional demographics of potential student-athletes. Also, there is a shared commitment at the collegiate level to increase participation opportunities from institutions and conferences, as well as funding and resources from national governing bodies to further support the sport's growth. Finally, the immediate effective date will allow schools that sponsor the sport in the 2026 spring championship season to count towards the requirement of 40 institutions to establish a national collegiate championship in a women's sport.

Review History:

Feb 12, 2025: Recommends Approval - NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics.

Apr 15, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.



**Division II and Division III Playing Rules
Structures for Consideration and Feedback
UPDATED – July 15, 2025**

To address the evolving landscape of higher education and intercollegiate athletics, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors created the Division I Decision-Making Working Group. Tasked with revising the current Division I governance structure, the working group has been reviewing and re-imagining Division I's decision-making processes. Recommendations from the working group must be approved by the Division I Board of Directors. The working group shared its recommendations with the Division I Board in June, with final action to occur in August.

One concept includes expanding the Division I sport oversight committee structure beyond football and men's and women's basketball. The oversight committees would have responsibilities for championships administration and selections, legislative matters (e.g., recruiting, playing and practice seasons) and playing rules.

Under this new federated model for playing rules, the Division I sport oversight committee structure would take on the duties to establish and maintain rules of play for Division I sports.

Anticipating this change may be approved in August, Division II and Division III have been discussing a change in structure for playing rules.

The divisions have sought initial feedback from committees and affiliate groups including the divisional championships committees, conference commissioners and athletics directors' groups.

Based on the initial feedback, there was consensus that the preferred model for Division II and Division III is to continue to work together on rules changes and to closely monitor the changes in Division I to ensure consistency, where appropriate. Additionally, each sport shall maintain one common rule book.

Further, any new process comes with the understanding that the playing rules process is still a federated process, and each division has autonomy over its playing rules. Current processes to gather membership feedback on existing and new rules as well as comment periods will remain.

The divisional Management Councils will continue to oversee playing rules as they currently do under divisional legislation.

Finally, the NCAA playing rules staff will continue to provide support/serve as liaisons to the divisions on its playing rules structure.

Playing Rules Approval Process

A joint Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) would give final approval on playing rules changes.

- PROP members shall serve four-year terms unless representing a committee or council.

- Each division's governance structure will appoint its divisional members to serve on PROP.
- Duties of PROP:
 - a. Oversee all Division II and Division III playing rules committees. This includes approval of playing rules recommendations and oversight of other issues pertaining to playing rules;
 - b. Recommend the establishment and dissolution of playing rules committees;
 - c. Monitor playing rules maintained outside of the NCAA;
 - d. Be responsible for all research and communication pertaining to the administration of playing rules, including the advancement of budgetary recommendations from the playing rules committee and to ensure consistency among different sports, when appropriate (e.g., policies controlling fighting or abusive language);
 - e. Review all playing rules changes pertaining to finances, safety and image of the game; and
 - f. Provide input on the selection process for secretary-rules editors.

Recommended composition of PROP:

The panel shall consist of 12 members, including six members from Division II and six members from Division III. A conference may not have more than one representative on the panel. Individuals with only coaching responsibilities and no administrative responsibilities are not eligible to serve.

- One appointed by the Division II Championships Committee.
- One appointed by the Division III Championships Committee.
- One appointed by the Division II Management Council.
- One appointed by the Division III Management Council.
- One appointed by the Division II Conference Commissioners Association.
- One reserved for a Division III Conference Commissioners Association member and appointed by the Division III Nominating Committee.
- The remaining three representatives from Division II and three representatives from Division III will be appointed at-large through the division's nominating committee process.

Playing Rules Committees

- Each division's governance structure will appoint its divisional members to serve on the rules committees (e.g., nominating committee process).
- Composition of rules committees shall include at least 25% of the positions to be filled by athletics directors, associate or assistant athletics directors, senior woman administrators, individuals who are employed full time as administrators by member conferences, or individuals who are employed both part time as administrators by member conferences and full time by member institutions.
- At least 50% of the total positions on each rules committee shall be filled by coaching staff members.
- A conference may not have more than one representative on a rules committee, unless there are two or fewer conferences sponsoring the sport.
- As its duties, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the PROP approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the PROP review.
- The term of office for each member will be four years.
- The secretary rules editor is a nonvoting member.
- Rules changes will typically be on a two-year cycle (consistent with current process).

Composition Numbers:

	Current	Recommended New
Baseball Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor
Men's Basketball Rules Committee	6 Division I members 3 Division II members 3 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor At least two representatives from each of the following	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor For Division II, one representative from each of

	Current	Recommended New
	four geographical regions: Districts 1 and 2; District 3; Districts 4 and 5; and Districts 6, 7 and 8 ^	the four championships super regions.
Women's Basketball Rules Committee	6 Division I members 3 Division II members 3 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor At least two representatives from each of the following four geographical regions: Districts 1 and 2; District 3; Districts 4 and 5; and Districts 6, 7 and 8 ^	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor For Division II, one representative from each of the four championships super regions.
Football Rules Committee	6 Division I members 3 Division II members 3 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor At least two representatives from each of the following four geographical regions: Districts 1 and 2; District 3; Districts 4 and 5; and Districts 6, 7 and 8 ^	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor For Division II, one representative from each of the four championships super regions.
Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee	6 Division I members 1 Division II member that sponsor Division I or Division II men's or women's ice hockey 4 Division III members 1 member from Division II or Division III 1 secretary rules editor Within Divisions I and III, one-half of the members shall represent men's ice hockey interests and one-half of the members shall represent women's ice hockey interests	2 Division II members 6 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor Within Divisions II and III, one-half of the members shall represent men's ice hockey interests and one-half of the members shall represent women's ice hockey interests

	Current	Recommended New
Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee	4 Division I members 1 Division II members 3 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	3 Division II members 5 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor
Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee	4 Division I members 1 Division II members 3 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	3 Division II members 5 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor
Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor Within each division, one-half of the members shall represent men's soccer interests, and one-half of the members shall represent women's soccer interests	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor Within each division, one-half of the members shall represent men's soccer interests, and one-half of the members shall represent women's soccer interests
Softball Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor
Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor
Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor
Women's Volleyball Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor

	Current	Recommended New
Men's Wrestling Rules Committee	4 Division I members 2 Division II members 2 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor	4 Division II members 4 Division III members 1 secretary rules editor

Future Decisions:

Once a structure and process are approved, additional decisions will be made either by national office staff or the divisional committee structure, where appropriate.

- National office and FTE support models.
- In-person and virtual meeting structures for the playing rules committees. Note: Currently, the playing rules committees that are in a rules change year meet in person. In addition, football, men's basketball, and women's basketball meet in person every year. Most committees also meet virtually outside of the annual meeting.
- Sports with rules determined by an outside entity (e.g., field hockey). At this time, the structure for non-NCAA playing rules will not change. However, the process to review and adopt playing rules may change (e.g., the membership can provide comment and feedback on all new rules versus only modifications).

Timeline:

May	Divisional Championships Committee review and discussions.
May	Feedback from affiliate organizations (e.g., conference commissioners, athletics directors).
June	Divisional Championships Committee recommendations.
July	Divisional Management Council approval.
September 1	Effective date of changes.



Division II Executive Board
Chair Election Notice

The Executive Board will conduct an election for chair of the Division II Executive Board at its October 2025 meeting.

Listed below are the duties and responsibilities of the Division II Executive Board chair:

1. Serve as a spokesperson for Division II;
2. Preside at Division II Executive Board meetings;
3. Preside at the Division II business session at the annual Convention;
4. Serve as a member of the Association's Board of Governors;
5. Serve as chair of the Division II Administrative Committee; and
6. Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.

The elected individual will take office at the conclusion of the 2026 NCAA Convention and serve a one-year term.

Per Bylaw 8.1.3.1.1 Chair and Vice Chair. The chair and the vice chair of the Executive Board shall each serve terms not to exceed two years. In addition, a member must serve a minimum of one year on the Executive Board before serving as chair or vice chair. *(Adopted: 1/31/22 effective 8/1/22, Revised: 1/14/23 effective 2/1/24)*

If you have an interest in nominating yourself or another Executive Board representative to the position, please let Terri Steeb Gronau know at your earliest convenience prior to Friday, September 26.



**Division II Executive Board
Vice Chair Election Notice**

The Executive Board will conduct an election for vice chair of the Division II Executive Board at its October 2025 meeting.

Listed below are the duties and responsibilities of the Division II Executive Board vice chair:

1. Take the chair's place and perform the chair's duties, if the chair is absent or incapacitated;
2. Report to the Division II membership at each annual Convention on the financial affairs of the division;
3. Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee; and
4. Serve on the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee

The elected individual will take office at the conclusion of the 2026 NCAA Convention and serve a one-year term.

Per Bylaw 8.1.3.1.1 Chair and Vice Chair. The chair and the vice chair of the Executive Board shall each serve terms not to exceed two years. In addition, a member must serve a minimum of one year on the Executive Board before serving as chair or vice chair.

If you have an interest in nominating yourself or another Executive Board representative to the position, please let Terri Steeb Gronau know at your earliest convenience prior to Friday, September 26.



**2024-25 Webinars for Chancellors/Presidents,
Athletic Direct Reports and Conference Commissioners**

During its April 2024 meeting, the Division II Executive Board agreed to host regular webinars for presidents and chancellors, athletics direct reports and conference commissioners given the evolving landscape for collegiate athletics.

The focus of the webinars was to receive information from the national office staff and members of the Division II Executive Board and/or other Division II committees in the structure on current divisional and Association-wide matters.

The webinars for the 2024-25 academic year were held via Zoom from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern time on the following dates:

- November 14, 2024;
- February 20, 2025; and
- May 22, 2025.

The NCAA staff sent an initial communication to hold the dates on individuals' calendars as well as emails to register for each webinar three weeks prior to each scheduled webinar. Below is the communication schedule for the 2024-25 academic year:

Date	Communication
September 4, 2024	Save the Dates: Webinars for Presidents and Chancellors, Athletics Direct Reports and Conference Commissioners
October 24, 2024	Register for the NCAA Division II November 14 Webinar
November 8, 2024	Reminder - Register for the NCAA Division II November 14 Webinar
January 29, 2025	Register for the NCAA Division II February 20 Webinar
February 29, 2025	Reminder - Register for the NCAA Division II February 20 Webinar
April 30, 2025	Register for the May 22 NCAA Division II Webinar
May 13, 2025	Reminder: Register for the May 22 NCAA Division II Webinar
May 19, 2025	Final Reminder to Register for the May 22 NCAA Division II Webinar

Attendance Breakdown:

Webinar Date	Total Number of Participants	President/ Chancellor	Athletics Director Report	Conference Office	Other
November 14 [Attachment A]	66	28	10	15	13
February 20 [Attachment B]	69	27	11	12	19
May 22 [Attachment C]	66	31	7	16	12

Questions for Feedback:

1. Should webinars continue for the 2025-26 academic year?
2. If yes, how can attendance be increased?
3. If yes, suggestions on content/agenda items?
4. Other suggestions or thoughts to share.



AA G E N D A

National Collegiate Athletic Association
Division II Webinar

Zoom

November 14, 2024
2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern Time

1. Welcome from Division II Executive Board Chair, Colleen Perry Keith.
2. Legal update from Jared Tidemann, NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
3. Questions for Jared.
4. Division II strategic planning process and Think Tank outcomes. [Supplement No. 1]
5. January 2025 NCAA Convention preview.
 - a. 2025 Division II Convention proposals. [Supplement No. 2]
 - b. Meeting schedule. [Supplement No. 3]
6. Division II Make-It-Yours Brand activation. [Supplement No. 4]
7. 2024-25 Division II Priorities. [Supplement No. 5]
8. Discussion and questions.
9. Future webinars.
 - a. 2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern time February 20, 2025; and
 - b. 2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern time May 22, 2025.



A G E N D A

National Collegiate Athletic Association
Division II Webinar

Zoom

February 20, 2025
2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern Time

1. Welcome from Division II Executive Board Chair, Colleen Perry Keith.
2. Legal update from Jared Tidemann, NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
3. Questions for Jared.
4. Update from the NCAA's Chief Medical Officer, Deena Casiero.
5. Questions for Deena.
6. Division II Make-It-Yours Brand activation.
7. Other items.
8. Discussion and questions.
9. Future webinars.
 - 2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern time May 22, 2025.



A G E N D A

National Collegiate Athletic Association
Division II Webinar

Zoom

May 22, 2025
2 to 3:15 p.m. Eastern Time

1. Welcome from Division II Executive Board Chair, Colleen Perry Keith.
2. Legal update from Jared Tidemann, NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
3. Questions for Jared.
4. Results of the Division II Make-It-Yours brand activation.
5. Division II Eligibility Review Working Group. [Supplement No. 1]
6. Division II Operating Plan and summary of Division II survey. [Supplement No. 2]
7. Other items. [Supplement No. 3]
8. Discussion and questions.

DRAFT
2025-2026 Division II Priorities**Championships**

Triennial Budget Process. The Division II Championships Committee and Division II sport committees will discuss recommendations as part of the 2027-30 triennial budget cycle with final recommendations submitted in September 2026.

Selection Criteria. The membership will vote in January at the 2026 NCAA Convention on whether to establish NPI (NCAA Power Index) as the sole selection metric for Division II team championships effective with the 2026-27 academic year.

Joint Championships. For the first time since 2018, the Division II Men's and Women's Elite Eights will be held jointly in Pittsburgh March 24-28. Additionally, the Division II Men's Basketball Championship game will be played in conjunction with the Division III Men's Basketball Championship game at the Division I Men's Final Four in Indianapolis. This marks the first joint men's basketball championship since 2012.

Potential New Championships. The membership will vote in January at the 2026 Convention on whether to add acrobatics and tumbling, and stunt as National Collegiate championships and women's bowling as a Division II championship. Women's bowling would become the division's 26th championship.

Operating Plan

Division II is in the final stages of developing a six-year Operating Plan that will be launched at the 2026 Convention and extend through 2032, which aligns with the remainder of the NCAA's current broadcast agreements. The new plan outlines five broad focus areas – Academics, Athletics, Health and Wellness, Governance, and Operations and Positioning – designed to enhance not only the student-athlete experience but also the experience of institutional personnel as members of a division who understand the balanced approach to athletics as part of the educational mission. The Division II Executive Board and the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee have worked to ensure the plan is fiscally responsible to support the initiatives necessary to carry out goals and benefit Division II members.

SAAC Priorities

In fall 2025, the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will prioritize enhancing community engagement and strengthening communication across conferences and schools. SAAC aims to spotlight existing community engagement efforts and Division II's partnerships with Make-A-Wish and Team IMPACT, while sharing ideas and best practices to inspire community engagement. The committee also strives to maintain consistent communication with campus and conference SAACs to disseminate updates and resources and receive feedback from their peers on important issues.

In spring 2026, pending all three divisions removing the prohibition on betting on professional sports, SAAC will shift focus to sports wagering education and harm reduction. This would include promoting NCAA Sport Science Institute resources, the NCAA's partnership with EPIC Risk

Management, and emphasizing student-athlete well-being, particularly the risks of problem gambling.

GOALS Survey Results

The 2024-25 Growth, Opportunities, Aspirations and Learning of Students in College Study (GOALS) provides data on the experiences and well-being of current student-athletes. Topics examined in this nationally representative survey include college academic, athletics and social experiences, coach-athlete relationships, recruitment and college choice, time commitments, on-campus support and finances. Division II committees and affiliate groups will review the GOALS results to determine whether policy or legislative changes are needed and whether to allocate resources to enhance the student-athlete experience.

Division II Eligibility Review Working Group – 2026 Convention Proposal (If sponsored)

Following the work of the NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group, Division II will consider legislation at the 2026 Convention to amend the seasons of competition legislation. If adopted, a Division II student-athlete would have five seasons to participate in intercollegiate competition and would have to complete the five seasons during the first 10-semester or 15-quarters of full-time enrollment.

Connection Program

The NCAA Division II Connection Program has expanded beyond coaches to include athletic trainers and faculty athletics representatives (FARs), strengthening engagement with key campus leaders who support the student-athlete experience.

The Athletic Trainers Connection enhances the role of athletic trainers as advocates for student-athlete health, safety and well-being. With representatives from each conference and support from a designated Connector, the program fosters communication among athletic trainers, commissioners and NCAA staff. Monthly calls, resource sharing and engagement with the NCAA Sport Science Institute and national organizations like National Athletic Trainers Association and College Athletic Trainers Society will occur to ensure athletic trainers have a consistent voice in Division II priorities and policies.

The FAR Connection reinforces the critical role FARs play in supporting academic integrity and student-athlete success. Through monthly conference calls, collaboration with Academic and Membership Affairs and engagement with the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association, FARs gain deeper insight into legislative and governance processes. The program promotes FAR involvement in NCAA committee service and facilitates communication across conferences to support informed, student-centered decision-making.

Make It Yours Brand

Following a successful marketing campaign that leveraged public service announcements and paid social media ads in spring 2025, Division II will launch a marketing campaign in fall 2025 to continue influencing the perception and understanding of the division among prospective student-athletes and their parents.

Partnership and Development Opportunities for the DII Membership

Women Leaders in Sports Governance Academy

September 2025 and October 2025 - Women Leaders in Sports and Division II will partner to provide educational and networking opportunities for female administrators in Division II.

APPLE Training Institute

September 2025 -- For the sixth time since 2015, Division II and the University of Virginia's Gordie Center will partner to host a Division II-specific APPLE Training Institute.

Athletics administrators and student-athletes from 33 institutions committed to promoting student-athlete wellness and substance misuse prevention on their campuses will have an opportunity to participate. The NCAA Division II APPLE Training Institute will be held Sept. 19-21, 2025, in Denver.

FAR Fellows Institute

September 2025 – The division will host its 15th FAR Fellows Institute and 20th institute overall September 26-28, 2025. The Institute provides educational programming for faculty athletics representatives to help them effectively perform their roles and support student-athletes. A special celebration will be conducted at the NCAA Convention in January 2026 to celebrate the 20th overall institute.

Impact Forum

November 2025 - The division will support an enhanced institutional participation at the NCAA Impact Forum. This program covers expenses for teams from up to 26 Division II institutions to attend the 2025 Forum in Indianapolis, November 10-12. Participating teams—composed of student-athletes, coaches, athletics administrators, and campus partners—will develop and implement action plans to advance initiatives on their campuses.

SAAC Super Region Convention

November 2025 -- The Division II SAAC will host its eighth super region convention November 21-23 in Denver for the South Central and West Regions (California Collegiate Athletic Association, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Lone Star Conference, Pacific West Conference and Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference). Participants will engage in several important topics, including the student-athlete voice, mental health, life after athletics, creating a culture of belonging, and more.

Professional Development Workshop for Athletic Communicators

June 2026 – Athletic communications professionals from each of the Division II conferences and independent institutions will be invited to participate in three days of professional development. This will be the first of four years in which athletic communications professionals will be the focus of this workshop.

Minority Opportunities Athletic Association Governance Academy

June 2026 – MOAA and Division II have partnered since 2009 to provide educational and networking opportunities for minority administrators in Division II.

Division II Professional Development Workshop for Compliance Administrators

June 2026 – The division is partnering with NAAC to provide programming for Division II compliance administrators. Topics include regulatory issues, governance issues, strategic initiatives and committee service, and professional and personal development.

Mentor Program

The NCAA and the Division II Athletics Directors Association (D2ADA) have partnered to create a women and minorities mentoring program that provides a unique opportunity for women and minorities interested in a career as a Division II director of athletics. This experience partners each successful candidate with a current Division II director of athletics for enhancing career development. Mentors provide yearlong guidance and role modeling that encourages a commitment to a long-range career goal of serving as a Division II director of athletics.

New AD Orientation

During the 2025-26 academic year, the division is partnering again with the D2ADA to provide programming for new directors of athletics in Division II. The participants will be invited to join other active Division II ADs and national office staff for an orientation session to discuss topics including championships, identity initiatives and financial information. The program also includes the opportunity for orientation at the NCAA and National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics conventions.



2026 NCAA Convention
Division II Core Schedule of Events

Monday, January 12

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 13

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Division II Management Council Meeting

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting

2:30 to 4:45 p.m. [Association-Wide Featured and Education Sessions](#)

Wednesday, January 14

8 to 11:30 a.m. Division II Executive Board/Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Breakfast and Meeting

8:30 to 10 a.m. Breakfast for New Division II Athletics Directors

8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. [Association-wide Featured and Education Sessions](#)

11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Division II Executive Board Meeting

11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Division II Management Council Mentor/Mentee Meeting and Lunch

5 to 6:30 p.m. [NCAA Honors](#)

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. [Reception](#)

7:30 to 9 p.m. Division II Management Council Toast

Thursday, January 15

8 to 10:15 a.m. Division II Chancellors and Presidents Breakfast and Meeting

7:45 to 8:45 a.m. Division II Delegates Breakfast

9 to 10:15 a.m. Division II Education Sessions (two concurrent education sessions)

10:30 a.m. to Noon Division II Keynote Session

1 to 5 p.m. Division II Conference Meetings

2:30 to 7 p.m.

NCAA Board of Governors Meeting

5 to 6 p.m.

Division II Faculty Mentor Award Presentation and Reception
to Celebrate 20 Years of FAR Institutes

Friday, January 16

7 to 8 a.m.

Delegates Breakfast

8 to 11 a.m.

Division II Business Session

Hotel Departure

Note: Events noted in blue font are part of the Association-wide Convention schedule and subject to change.



Division II Education Sessions and Programming
2026 NCAA Convention

1. Wednesday afternoon, January 14 (45-Minute Session) in the Association-Wide Time Slots):

Division II Education Session in Association-wide time slot – The Future of Division II Championships: selection criteria, championships budget and bracketing. This session will be led by a panel of athletics administrators.

2. Wednesday afternoon, January 15 (60-Minute Session) in the Association-Wide Time Slots):

Division II Education Session in Association-wide time slot – Proactive business strategies for Division II (e.g. procurement strategies, budgets, fundraising, revenue generation, travel, alcohol sales, adding sports, roster management). This session will be led by a panel of athletics administrators.

3. Thursday morning Division II programming from 9 to 10:15 a.m. January 15:

A concurrent series of two sessions, which will allow participants to share ideas in round-table format.

- a. A general session covering the following topics: The engaged faculty athletics representative; how to build a robust and engaged campus and conference SAAC; and best practices with limited resources. This session will be led by a group of experts and allow participants to share ideas in a round-table format.
- b. A session focusing on the Impact of Division I decision on Division II. This session will be led by a panel of athletics administrators and allow participants to share ideas in a round-table format.

4. Thursday Division II Keynote Session from 10:30 a.m. to noon January 15.

- **Dr. Patrice Buckner Jackson.** Wife, Educator, Speaker, Author, Amazon Best Seller, Podcast Host, and Burnout Warrior! Dr. Patrice Buckner Jackson, known in her community as Dr. PBJ, gives educators the strategies for accomplishing purposeful work without burnout.

Dr. PBJ is an educator of almost 25 years and an Executive Coach for more than 10 years. She holds a doctoral degree in Education Administration, served in executive leadership at colleges and universities, and facilitates leadership training as a faculty member for the Center for Creative Leadership. Dr. Jackson worked in higher education at many levels, from student assistant to President's Cabinet and is the recipient of several professional awards and accolades.