



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.

- 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>)	