



## A G E N D A

### National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Management Council

Grant Ballroom B  
NCAA National Office

April 14-15, 2025

1. Welcome and announcements. [Supplement No. 1] (Roberta Page)
  - What's on your mind?
2. Review of previous minutes. (Page)
  - a. Winter 2025 Management Council and Executive Board. [Supplement No. 2] (*Action*)
  - b. NCAA Board of Governors. [Supplement No. 3]
  - c. Administrative Committee. [Supplement No. 4] (*Action*)
3. 2024-25 Division II Priorities. [Supplement No. 5] (Maritza Jones)
4. NCAA Convention and legislation.
  - a. Noncontroversial legislation. [Supplement No. 6] (Rachel Denton) (*Action*)
  - b. Memo for inclusion of proposals into Division II Manual. [Supplement No. 7] (Chelsea Hooks) (*Action*)
5. Review of committee recommendations affecting Division II.
  - a. Division II committees.
    - (1) Academic Requirements Committee. (Eric Gobiel)
      - (a) February 7 electronic vote. [Supplement No. 8]
      - (b) February 27 videoconference. [Supplement No. 9]
    - (2) Championships Committee. (Vaughn Williams)
      - (a) January 9 videoconference. [Supplement No. 10]
      - (b) February 24-25 videoconference. [Supplement No. 11] (*Action*)

- (c) April 3 videoconference. [Supplement No. 12]
- (3) Degree Completion Award Committee. [Supplement No. 13] (Kristy Bayer)
- (4) Infractions Appeals Committee. [Supplement No. 14] (Alex Smith and Wendy Walters)
- (5) Legislation Committee. (Krissy Ortiz)
  - (a) February 18 electronic vote. [Supplement No. 15]
  - (b) March 18-19 in-person meeting. [Supplement No. 16]
- (6) Legislative Relief Committee. (Jackie Armstrong)
  - (a) February 26 videoconference. [Supplement No. 17]
  - (b) April 2 videoconference. [Supplement No. 18]
- (7) Membership Committee. (Christina Whetsel)
  - (a) February 11 videoconference. [Supplement No. 19] (*Action*)
  - (b) April 1 videoconference. [Supplement No. 20]
- (8) Nominating Committee. [Supplement No. 21] (Patrick Britz) (*Action*)
- (9) Strategic Planning and Finance Committee. (Erin Lind)
  - (a) March 28 videoconference. [Supplement No. 22] (*Action*)
  - (b) 2024-25 year to date budget-to-actual report. [Supplement No. 23]
- (10) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. (Avery Hellmuth and Darius Satterfield)
  - (a) January 13-14 in-person meeting. [Supplement No. 24]
  - (b) March 31 videoconference. [Supplement No. 25]
- b. Division II project teams, subcommittees and working groups.
  - (1) Convention Planning Project Team. [Supplement No. 26] (Ortiz)

- (2) Eligibility Review Working Group. (Gobiel, Hellmuth, George Knox, Sandee Mott, Ortiz)
    - (a) February 26 videoconference. [Supplement No. 27]
    - (b) March 10 videoconference. [Supplement No. 28]
    - (c) March 26 videoconference. [Supplement No. 29]
  - (3) Management Council Identity Subcommittee. (Mott)
- c. Association-wide committees.
  - (1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. (Sarah Ramey)
    - (a) December 9 videoconference. [Supplement No. 30]
    - (b) Excerpt from February 17-18 in-person meeting. [Supplement No. 31]
  - (2) Committee on Women's Athletics. [Supplement No. 32] (Kat Loh) (*Action*)
    - Request from Conference Carolinas regarding flag football. [Supplement No. 33] (M. Jones)
  - (3) Honors Committee. [Supplement No. 34] (Kim Hancock)
  - (4) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee. [Supplement No. 35] (Femi Alao)
  - (5) Playing Rules Oversight Panel. (Rachel Seewald)
    - (a) November 13 email vote. [Supplement No. 36]
    - (b) January 22 videoconference. [Supplement No. 37]
  - (6) Postgraduate Scholarship Committee. [Supplement No. 38] (Bo Pagliasotti)
- 6. Breakout sessions to discuss results from the Division II survey. [Supplement No. 39] (Terri Steeb Gronau and Mariah Murdock)

<b>Group 1 Theodore Roosevelt Room</b>	<b>Group 2 Althea Gibson Room</b>	<b>Group 3 Jesse Owens Room</b>
Femi Alao ( <i>Facilitator</i> )	Jackie Armstrong	Kristy Bayer
Pat Britz	Ben Cherry	Carlin Chesick ( <i>Recorder/Reporter</i> )
Chris Colvin	Jeremy Elliott ( <i>Recorder/Reporter</i> )	Jennifer Flowers
Pete Crabb	Theresa Grosbach ( <i>Facilitator</i> )	Kim Hancock
Eric Gobiell	Jerry Haywood	Avery Hellmuth
David Hansburg ( <i>Recorder/Reporter</i> )	Erin Lind	Kat Loh
George Knox	Cindy McKnight	Sandee Mott
Krissy Ortiz	Roberta Page	Bo Pagliasotti
Sarah Ramey	Darius Satterfield	Rubin Stevenson ( <i>Facilitator</i> )
Christina Whetsel	Ryan Jones	Vaughn Williams
Terri Steeb Gronau	Chelsea Hooks	Maritza Jones
Rachel Denton	Jordan Lysiak	Karen Kirsch
Angela Red		Mariah Murdock

7. Division II Management Council.

- a. Election to fill the Conference Carolinas' vacancy. [Supplement No. 40] (Page)  
(*Action*)
- b. Management Council committee and project team assignments. [Supplement No. 41] (Page)
- c. Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee summit. (Ryan Jones)

8. National office updates.

- a. Executive. (Charlie Baker)
- b. Legal. (Jared Tidemann)
- c. Sport Science Institute. (Deena Casiero)
- d. Fan database. (Brian Higgins)
- e. Discussion regarding accreditation. [Supplement No. 42] (Stephanie Quigg)

- f. Sports wagering. [Supplement No. 43] (Angela Red)
  - g. Division II Winter Championships Festival. (Karen Kirsch)
  - h. Division II Make It Yours brand/marketing outreach. (R. Jones)
  - i. SAAC Super Region Convention. (R. Jones)
- 9. Affiliated association updates.
  - a. Division II Athletics Director Association. (Gobiel)
  - b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association. (Erin Lind)
  - c. College Sports Communicators. [Supplement No. 44] (R. Jones)
  - d. Faculty Athletics Representative Association. (Pete Crabb)
  - e. Minority Opportunities Athletics Association. (Williams)
  - f. National Association for Athletics Compliance. (Whetsel)
  - g. Women Leaders in Spors. (Ramey)
- 10. Other business. (Page)
  - a. March 18 Nominating Committee electronic action report. [Supplement No. 45] (Britz)
  - b. April 8 Nominating Committee videoconference report. [Supplement No. 46] (Britz)
- 11. Meeting recap/things to report back to conferences. (Page)
- 12. Future meetings. (Page)
  - a. July 18, 2025, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit; videoconference.
  - b. July 21-22, 2025, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - c. October 21-22, 2025, Management Council meeting; videoconference.
  - d. January 14-17, 2026, in conjunction with the 2026 NCAA Convention, Washington, D.C.

- e. April 13-14, 2026, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - f. July 18-19, 2026, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit; Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - g. July 20-21, 2026, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - h. October 20-21, 2026, Management Council meeting; videoconference.
13. Adjournment.

<b>Femi Alao</b> Assistant Director of Athletics/SWA Roberts Wesleyan University 2301 Westside Drive Rochester, New York 14624	Telephone: 585-594-6189 Email: <a href="mailto:alao_obafemi@roberts.edu">alao_obafemi@roberts.edu</a> Term: January 2027
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<b>Patrick Britz</b> Commissioner South Atlantic Conference 226 Northpark Drive, Suite 130 Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730	Telephone: 803-981-5240 Email: <a href="mailto:patrick@thesac.com">patrick@thesac.com</a> Cell Phone: 803-412-1770 Term: January 2027
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<b>Carlin Chesick</b> Senior Associate Commissioner/SWA Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Lock Haven University, Smith Hall - Room 5 Lock Haven, Pennsylvania 17745	Telephone: 570-484-2513 Email: <a href="mailto:cchesick@psacsports.org">cchesick@psacsports.org</a> Cell Phone: 630-853-1649 Term: January 2028
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<b>Eric Gobiell</b> Director of Athletics Assumption University 500 Salisbury Street Worcester, Massachusetts 01609	Telephone: 508-767-7086 Email: <a href="mailto:ep.gobiell@assumption.edu">ep.gobiell@assumption.edu</a> Cell Phone: 978-866-1409 Term: January 2029
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## SUMMARY OF WINTER 2025 QUARTERLY MEETINGS

National Collegiate Athletic Association  
January 14, 2025, Division II Management Council, January 15, 2025, Executive Board;  
and February 3, 2025, Management Council

January 14, 2025, Division II Management Council and January 15, 2025, Executive Board

### 1. Welcome and Announcements.

Management Council. The chair convened the meeting at 8 a.m. Central time Tuesday, January 14.

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

Executive Board. The chair convened the meeting at 11:19 a.m. Central time Wednesday, January 15. The chair noted that Blake Thompson, Mississippi College, would not be in attendance.

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

### 2. Review of Previous Minutes.

#### a. Fall 2024 Division II Management Council and Executive Board.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of actions from its fall meetings.

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved the summary of actions from its fall meetings.

#### b. Board of Governors.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the Board of Governors report from its October 30 in-person meeting.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the Board of Governors report from its October 30 in-person 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 status of the 2024-25 Division II priorities, noting that progress has been made on each of the various strategies within the priorities.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was updated on the status of the 2024-25 Division II priorities, noting that progress has been made on each of the various strategies within the priorities.

**4. NCAA Convention and Legislation.**

**a. 2025 NCAA Convention Schedule.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update on the schedule for the 2025 Convention.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was updated on the schedule for the 2025 Convention.

**b. Facilitator Assignments for Roundtables during Division II Educational Sessions.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the roundtable facilitator assignments and instructions for the January 16 Division II educational sessions.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**c. Proposed Legislation for the 2025 Convention.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update on the legislative proposals for the Division II business session. The council discussed actions that could occur relative to the eight proposals.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update on the proposals for the business session.

**d. Review of Management Council Assignments (with Positions of FARA and SAAC) for the Division II Proposals.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed its speaking assignments for the Division II business session.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed positions taken by different groups regarding the proposals for the 2025 Convention.

**e. Procedural Issues Document.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed and approved the procedural issues document, as presented. It was noted by staff that this document would be provided electronically to all delegates at the Division II business session.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the procedural issues document.

**f. Question and Answer Guide Related to the 2025 Convention Proposals.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the question and answer guide related to the 2025 Convention proposals, noting that it was a good reference tool when reviewing proposed legislation.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**g. Noncontroversial Legislation.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted in legislative form four noncontroversial proposals that had previously been approved in concept (Proposal Nos. NC-2026-1 through NC-2026-4), as presented. The proposals are listed below.

- (1) **Organizational Structure and Committees -- Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees -- Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.** To transition the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women's Athletics to one committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.
- (2) **Organizational Structure and Committees -- Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees -- Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports -- Composition -- Endocrinologist.** To specify that the position designated for an endocrinologist on the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports may be filled by a member of the general public.
- (3) **Recruiting -- Publicity -- Photograph of Prospective Student-Athlete -- Institutional Camp or Clinic Advertisement.** To permit an institution to use a prospective student-athlete's photo to advertise an institutional camp or clinic, provided the institution receives written consent from the prospective student-athlete as required by institutional and/or conference policy.

- (4) **Infractions Program -- Penalties -- Individual Accountability Measures.**  
To implement changes to Bylaw 19 to focus meaningful infractions penalties on the individuals responsible for the underlying rules violations, as specified.

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 October 23 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(2) **Championships Committee.**

(a) **October 18 Videoconference and October 21 Electronic Vote.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's October 18 videoconference and October 21 electronic vote reports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) **November 7 Videoconference.**

i. **Women's Lacrosse Championship Date Formula and Bracket Expansion.**

Management Council. The Management Council did not take action on this recommendation due to the Championships Committee revising its recommendation during its December videoconference (see item No. 5-a-(2)-(c)-ii).

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

ii. **Referral to the Division II Legislation Committee – Potential Division II Women's Bowling Championship.**

Management Council. The Management Council referred to the Division II Legislation Committee a review of sport-

specific legislation that would need to be amended should a Division II Women's Bowling Championship be established.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update on the referral to the Legislation Committee.

**(c) December 5 Videoconference.**

**i. Women's Basketball Championship Date Formula for 2028.**

Management Council. The Management Council amended the date formula for the 2028 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championship as follows: Wednesday – quarterfinals, Friday – semifinals.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update that the Management Council amended the date formula for the 2028 Division II Women's Basketball Championship.

**ii. Women's Lacrosse Championship Bracket Expansion, Date Formula and Format Change.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Executive Board modify the date formula as listed below for the Division II Women's Lacrosse Championship and approve the top two seeds in each region hosting first- and second-round games (rather than only the top seed in each region). Further, the council recommended the board approve funding to cover the additional costs not included in the original projections approved as part of the triennial budget process to expand the championship bracket from 16 to 24 teams.

- Selection announcement: Sunday prior to first and second rounds.
- First and second rounds (eight sites; top two seeds in each of the four regions hosting): Thursday and Saturday prior to quarterfinals.
- Quarterfinals: Saturday prior to semifinals and final.
- Semifinals and final: Thursday-Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.



Executive Board. The Executive Board approved modifying the date formula for the Division II Women's Lacrosse Championship and approved that the top two seeds in each region host first- and second-round games (rather than only the top seed in each region). Further, the board approved funding to cover the additional costs not included in the original projections approved as part of the triennial budget process to expand the championship bracket from 16 to 24 teams.

**(3) Committee on Infractions.**

**(a) Infractions Program – Application of Violation Structure.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to incorporate the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an updated that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to incorporate the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals.

**(b) Infractions Program – Application Exception for Limited Sports Betting Violations.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that: (1) violations of the sports wagering activities legislation involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individuals and the institution; and (2) in all other instances, violations of the sports wagering activities legislation may be processed at different classifications for the involved individual and institution.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that: (1) violations of the sports wagering activities legislation involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individuals and the institution; and (2) in all other instances, violations of the sports wagering activities legislation may

be processed at different classifications for the involved individual and institution.

- (c) **Enforcement and Committee on Infractions Internal Operating Procedures (IOPs) Reflecting Approval of Application of Violation Structure and Exception for Limited Sports Betting Violations Legislative Proposals.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the Enforcement and Committee on Infractions IOPs reflecting Bylaw 19 changes.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(4) **Legislation Committee.**

- (a) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaws 14.4.3.4.2.1.3, 14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 and 14.4.3.4.2.1.3.2 -- Elimination of Academic Year in Residence Requirement.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the academic year in residence requirement under the organized-competition legislation, effective August 1, 2025, for individuals who initially enroll full time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an updated that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the academic year in residence requirement under the organized-competition legislation.

- (b) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaws 14.4.3.4.2.2.4.1 and 14.4.8.3.2.3 -- Elimination of Major Junior Ice Hockey Penalty.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the penalty associated with an individual's participation on a Major Junior ice hockey team, effective August 1, 2025.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (c) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaws 14.4.7.5.1 and 16.8.1.2 -- Other Competition.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation 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, effective August 1, 2025.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (d) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 17.14.5.4 -- Annual Exemptions -- Women's Ice Hockey -- Scrimmage/Exhibition Contest.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to permit in women's ice hockey, to participate in one scrimmage or exhibition contest each year and exempt the scrimmage or contest from the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17, effective August 1, 2025.

- (e) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 17.28 -- Water Polo -- Preseason Practice and First Date of Competition.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that, in men's and women's water polo, 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, effective August 1, 2025.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (5) **Membership Committee.**

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 7.5.1.7.2 -- Use of Association's Registered Marks.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.5.1.7.2 (use of Association’s registered marks) to remove the ability for an institution in year three of the Division II provisional membership process to use the Association’s registered marks; further, to clarify that an institution in the Division II membership process is limited to using Division II-specific logos.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(6) **Nominating Committee.**

• **Committee Appointments.**

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

- (a) **NCAA International Student Records Review Committee.** **Dwight Heaster**, associate professor of business and faculty athletics representative, Glenville State University, Mountain East Conference.
- (b) **NCAA Division II Legislative Relief Committee.** **Erin Harvey**, associate director of athletics/compliance and senior woman administrator, Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

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

(a) **December 11 Videoconference.**

i. **Division II Surplus Recommendations.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Executive Board approve allocating the fiscal year 2023-24 surplus equaling \$2,874,442 in the following ways:

Item	Amount
Division II Supplemental Distribution (274 institutions eligible – \$8,159 per institution)	\$2,235,470

Joint Championships Roll-Over	\$340,053
Championships Festival Roll-Over	\$103,919
Women’s Lacrosse Championship Date Formula and Bracket Expansion	\$140,000
Consultant on Metric-Based Tool for Team Sport Championship Selections	\$30,000
Governance Outreach	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,874,442</b>

*Notes:*

*Supplemental Distribution. Sent to each active and eligible institution that received the Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Fund in April 2024 and is still an active Division II institution at the time of the distribution in February 2025 (274 institutions are eligible). Per current calculations, the supplemental distribution would be \$8,159 per school.*

*Joint Championships Roll-Over. This line item is rolled over each fiscal year to ensure dollars are available for joint championships events. The next joint championship is men's basketball in FY26.*

*Championships Festival Roll-Over. The remaining funds from FY24 will be used to pay for the winter national championships festival expenses in FY25. The winter festival is the largest festival (1,600 travel party).*

*Women’s Lacrosse Championship Date Formula and Bracket Expansion. Funding for a date formula change for the Division II Women’s Lacrosse Championship. In addition, funding to cover the additional costs not included in the original projections approved as part of the triennial budget process to expand the championship bracket from 16 to 24 teams.*

*Consultant on Metric-Based Tool for Team Sport Championship Selections. Funding to hire a consultant to facilitate calls with sport committees and the Division II membership to seek feedback and educate regarding the use of a results-based metric for selections.*

*Governance Outreach. This line item covered expenses for the Division II Think Tank in September 2024. The surplus dollars will cover regular expenses for this line item in FY25, including*

*expenses for ADA/CCA Officers meeting in August 2025 (moved from September 2025 and FY26), travel expenses for the Management Council chair, and mementos for governance structure committee members.*

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved allocating the fiscal year 2023-24 surplus equaling \$2,874,442, as recommended.

ii. **Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles - Additional Exceptions to the Championships Triennial Budget Process.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Executive Board approve amending the Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles including adding the following exceptions to the triennial championships budget process:

- Championship bracket adjustments, provided a championships policy has been triggered (e.g., potential expansion when a sport's current bracket exceeds the 50 percent AQ threshold, or the sponsorship of the sport places the access ratio outside of the legislated 4.25 to 6);
- Technology (e.g., video replay, web streaming requirements); and
- Officiating expenses (e.g., adjusting fees to attract quality officials, officiating needs due to playing rules changes).

Executive Board. The Executive Board approved amending the Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles, as recommended.

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

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the budget-to-actual figures as of November 30, 2024.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the budget-to-actual figures as of November 30, 2024.

**(8) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's November 23-24 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(9) Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.**

**(a) October 30 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's October 30 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(b) December 5 Videoconference.**

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaws 13.9.1.4.4 and 16.01.1.1 -- Recruiting and Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes -- Elimination of Requirement to Send Repayment Documentation.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation 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. Association-Wide Committees.**

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

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 16-17 in-person meeting report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(2) Honors Committee.**

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

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(3) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.**

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

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(4) Committee on Women's Athletics.**

- **September 26 In-Person Meeting and October 23 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 26 in-person meeting and October 23 videoconference reports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(5) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women's Athletics.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committees' September 27 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**(6) Playing Rules Oversight Panel.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the panel's September 6 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**6. Management Council Issues and Updates.**

**a. Election to Fill the At-Large Vacancy.**

Management Council. The Management Council elected the following individual to become a new representative on the Council, effective immediately for a four-year term.



- At-Large Representative. **Jennifer Flowers**, director of athletics, Southwest Minnesota State University.

Executive Board. The Executive Board ratified the election.

**b. 2025 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 Policies and Procedures.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the updated policies and procedures document.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**7. Executive Board Issues.**

- a. Election of One Independent Representative to the Division II Executive Board.**  
The Executive Board elected **Edward Hjerpe** as a new independent representative for a two-year period, starting immediately, and concluding with adjournment of the 2027 Convention. The appointment is renewable for an additional two years.

- b. Debrief of the Joint Meeting of the Division II Executive Board, Management Council and SAAC, Including Next Steps Related to Sports Wagering.** The Executive Board agreed to discuss this item further during its April videoconference.

**8. 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. Government Relations.**

Management Council. The Management Council received a government relations update from the NCAA senior vice president of external affairs and the managing director, NCAA office of government relations on issues surrounding the NCAA.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received a government relations update from the NCAA senior vice president of external affairs and the managing director, NCAA office of government relations on issues surrounding the NCAA.

**c. 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.

**d. 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 mental health, performance and training advisory group and sports betting.

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 mental health, performance and training advisory group and sports betting.

**e. Make It Yours Brand and Marketing Outreach.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update on the Make It Yours brand and marketing outreach.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received an update on the Make It Yours brand and marketing outreach.

**f. Division II Academic Success Rate and Federal Graduation Rates.**

Management Council. The Management Council received information on the trends in Academic Success Rates and Federal Graduation Rates at Division II institutions.

Executive Board. The Executive Board received information on the trends in Academic Success Rates and Federal Graduation Rates at Division II institutions.

**9. 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.

**10. Other Business.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**11. 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 supplemental distribution; graduation rates/ASR data; Division II University required modules for 2025-26; Division II membership survey; government relations resources and the post-meeting article.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

**12. Recognize Outgoing Members.**

Management Council. The Management Council recognized the following individuals, whose terms are ending on the Management Council: Marcus Clarke, senior associate commissioner, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Amy Henkelman, director of athletics, Dominican University of California; Danny McCabe, director of athletics, Adelphi University; Courtney Medwin, former student-athlete, West Chester University of Pennsylvania; and Austin Mondello, former student-athlete, Colorado Mesa University.

Executive Board. The Executive Board recognized Davaris Cheeks, former student-athlete, Concordia University, St. Paul; and Katie Williamson, former student-athlete, Southern Connecticut State University, whose terms are ending on the Executive Board.

**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 3:19 p.m. January 14.

Executive Board. The Executive Board adjourned at 3:34 p.m. January 15.

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**February 3, 2025, Management Council Videoconference.**

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The Management Council convened its videoconference at 10:31 a.m. Eastern time Monday, February 3. The chair welcomed those in attendance and acknowledged the seven new members of the Council: Jackie Armstrong, senior woman administrator, Point Loma Nazarene University; Jennifer Flowers, director of athletics, Southwest Minnesota State University; Eric Gobiell, director of athletics, Assumption University, Avery Hellmuth, former student-athlete, Oklahoma Baptist University; George Knox, director of athletics, Shaw University; and Darius Satterfield, student-athlete, Elizabeth City State University. The Management Council reviewed the terms of office for its members, as well as the committee, project team and mentor assignments for 2025.
2. **Convention Evaluation.** The Management Council discussed and evaluated the meeting that was held jointly with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Executive Board, as well as all other sessions developed for and by the division. Additionally, several members of the Convention management staff joined the meeting to obtain relevant feedback on the overall Convention and its programming and logistics. Suggestions were offered by the Council.
3. **Convention Legislation.** The Management Council noted the following results from the Division II Business Sessions, held during the 2025 NCAA Convention.

**2025 NCAA CONVENTION VOTING RESULTS**  
**(Friday, January 17 Division II Business Session)**

PROPOSAL NO.	BUSINESS SESSION	RESULT	COUNT (actual count or paddle)
2025-1 <sup>#</sup>	II	Approved	256-2-47
2025-2 <sup>*&gt;</sup>	II	Approved	223-80-2

2025-3 <sup>+</sup>	II	Approved	272-32-1
2025-4 <sup>^</sup>	II	Approved	286-18-1
2025-5 <sup>*</sup>	II	Approved	253-52-1
2025-6 <sup>*</sup>	II	Moot	
2025-7 <sup>*</sup>	II	Approved	235-65-4
2025-8 <sup>*</sup>	II	Approved	102-68-1

# Effective Immediately.

\* Effective August 1, 2025.

+ Effective August 1, 2025, for certification of progress-toward-degree requirements for fall 2025 and thereafter.

^ Effective August 1, 2025, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.

> Contains an amendment to a common provision, NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examination). Since Divisions I and III did not vote on the same change, the adoption of Proposal No. 2025-2 will only extend the timing of a medical examination/evaluation from six months to one-year for prospective student-athletes participating in a tryout at a Division II institution. Timing of a medical examination/evaluation and the timing for when an updated medical history must be administered, will remain six months for the following individuals: (1) currently enrolled students; (2) student-athletes beginning their initial season of eligibility; and (3) continuing student-athletes.

4. **Noncontroversial Legislation.** The Management Council adopted in legislative form one noncontroversial proposal that had previously been approved in concept (NCAA Proposal No. NC-2026-7, as presented. The proposal is listed below.

- **NC-2026-7: Infractions Program -- Violation Structure -- Application of Violation Structure And Exception For Limited Sports Wagering Violations.** To incorporate the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals; further, to specify that: (1) violations of the sports wagering activities legislation involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individuals and the institution; and (2) in all other instances, violations of the sports wagering activities legislation may be processed at different classifications for the involved individual and institution.

5. **Division II Survey.** The Management Council was provided with an update regarding the Division II survey was sent January 22. As of noon Eastern time January 31, there had been about 700 responses received. The council was asked to encourage their colleagues to take the survey. Finally, the council was informed that reminders would be sent in the near future.

6. **Legal Update.** The Management Council received a legal update regarding recent court cases in Division I regarding eligibility. The Management Council took action to authorize a comprehensive eligibility review for Division II and referred this review to be conducted jointly by the Division II Academic Requirements Committee and the Division II Legislation Committee in a timely fashion.

The council also discussed 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 year and they meet all eligibility requirements (e.g., progress toward degree, time remaining within their 10-semesters/15-quarters). This blanket waiver was similar to the blanket waiver granted recently by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors. The motion to issue a Division II blanket waiver did not receive a majority vote from the Management Council.

7. **Other Business.** No action was necessary.

8. **Future Meetings.** The Management Council reviewed the upcoming meetings through October 2026.

9. **Adjournment.** The Management Council adjourned at 12:57 p.m. Eastern time February 3.

January 14, 2025, Management Council; January 15, 2025, Executive Board; and February 3, 2025, Management Council	
Attendees:	
Management Council	Executive Board
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	Roslyn Artis, Benedict College
Jackie Armstrong, Point Loma Nazarene University ( <i>February 3</i> )	Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University	Tim Collins, Walsh University
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	Donna Henry, University of Virginia's College at Wise
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College

Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association ( <i>January 14</i> )	Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
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 ( <i>February 3</i> )	Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University ( <i>February 3</i> )	Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State 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 ( <i>February 3</i> )	
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California ( <i>January 14</i> )	
David Hicks, King University	
George Knox, Shaw University ( <i>February 3</i> )	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College	
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University ( <i>January 14</i> )	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania ( <i>January 14</i> )	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University ( <i>January 14</i> )	
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 ( <i>February 3</i> )	
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University	

<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	Blake Thompson, Mississippi College
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>	
Hannah Black, Short's Travel ( <i>February 3</i> )	None.
Bridget Fuller, Short's Travel ( <i>February 3</i> )	
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Charlie Baker ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Olivia Baumhoer ( <i>February 3</i> ), Tim Buckley ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Dawn Buth ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Deena Caserio ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Michael Cioroianu ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Rachel Denton, Jon Duncan ( <i>January 14</i> ), LaGwyn Durden ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Terri Steeb Gronau, Ashley Hammers ( <i>February 3</i> ), Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones ( <i>January 15</i> ), Karen Kirsch, Melody Lawrence ( <i>February 3</i> ), Kevin Lennon ( <i>January 14, January 15</i> ), Micaela Liddane ( <i>January 14, February 3</i> ), Jordan Lysiak, Marnae Mawdsley ( <i>January 14</i> ); Matt Mikrut ( <i>January 14</i> ), Mariah Murdock, Crystal Reimer ( <i>February 3</i> ), Angela Red, Lorraine Schumacher ( <i>January 14</i> ), Jeff Smith ( <i>February 3</i> ), Jared Tidemann and Jill Waddell.	





REPORT OF THE  
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
JANUARY 16, 2025, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. The NCAA Board of Governors approved the application of the penalty of the NCAA Campus Sexual Violence Policy for two schools that did not attest to meeting the six requirements in the 2023-24 academic year.
2. The Board of Governors appointed Colleen Perry-Keith as vice chair, effective upon adjournment of the meeting through the January 2026, meeting.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the meeting at approximately 2:32 p.m. Central 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 authorization to negotiate a settlement of pending litigation.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors authorize the negotiation of a settlement of pending litigation.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

3. **Consent agenda.** By way of a consent agenda, the Board of Governors approved two items including: (a) the October 30, 2024, meeting report; (b) the December 16, 2024, videoconference report; and (c) Association-wide membership dues for the 2025-26 academic year.
4. **NCAA President’s report.** NCAA President Charlie Baker updated the board on several items, including the NCAA Post-Eligibility Insurance program, discussion around expanding the Division I men’s and women’s basketball championships, and the NCAA fan database.
5. **Discussion regarding the NCAA Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Policy.** The Board of Governors discussed participation by transgender student-athletes considering the latest federal developments and the current legal and state landscape. The board reviewed the NCAA policy and agreed to continue its review at future meetings.
6. **Update on 2023-24 attestations of the NCAA Policy on Campus Sexual Violence.** NCAA staff provided the board with an overview of the policy and the annual requirement of all active member schools to attest to meeting the six requirements in the policy. Schools that are not able attest to the policy requirements by the deadline will be fined \$5,000, which will be distributed to a philanthropic organization focused on campus sexual violence

prevention. In addition, the NCAA publishes a list of schools on its website that did not attest to the policy by the deadline.

It was reported that all active member schools completed the attestation for the 2023-24 academic year by the deadline of November 1, 2024; however, four schools failed to attest to meeting the six requirements of the policy in the 2023-24 academic year. The four schools submitted mitigation to the board for consideration of application of the penalty.

- a. **Institutional requests for relief of the penalty for failure to meet the attestation deadline.** The Board of Governors Executive Committee met on January 9 and discussed the application of the penalty for the four schools that did not attest to meeting the six policy requirements in the 2023-24 academic year. The Executive Committee recommended that the board apply the penalty to two of the four schools for failure to meet the policy, and to not apply the penalty to two of the four schools that failed to attest due to a clerical error made by the schools when reporting their attestation.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors apply the penalty for the two schools that failed to attest to the policy requirements in the 2023-24 academic year; further, not apply the penalty for the two schools that failed to attest to the policy requirements in the 2023-24 academic year due to a clerical error made by the schools when reporting their attestation.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

[Note: The list of schools that did not attest to meeting the six policy requirements for the 2023-24 academic year will be published on the NCAA website on Wednesday, February 5.]

- b. **Update from divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees regarding selection of philanthropic organization(s) focusing efforts on campus sexual violence prevention for receipt of institutional fines.** In April 2024, the board agreed to revise the penalty structure for the policy, and the divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees were charged with selecting the philanthropic organizations for receipt of institutional fines for non-attestation of the policy. NCAA staff noted that the Divisions I and II Student-Athlete Advisory Committees selected It's On Us, and the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee selected the One Love Foundation for receipt of institutional fines for non-attestation.
7. **NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee report.** Jim Phillips, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, presented the committee's report from its January 7, videoconference.
    - a. **Updates to the BOGFAC Charter.** The Finance and Audit Committee noted that there are two versions of the BOGFAC charter. One version of the charter is in the Board of Governors Policies and Procedures, and the second version is a more

comprehensive document reviewed annually by BOGFAC. Since there are no substantive conflicts between the two charter documents, BOGFAC agreed to merge the two charter documents into one comprehensive charter including minor administrative revisions.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the merger of two versions of the Finance and Audit Committee charters into one comprehensive charter with minor administrative revisions, as specified.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- b. **Approval of nominations for BOGFAC Investment Subcommittee.** The Finance and Audit Committee discussed that the terms of two members on the Finance and Audit Committee Investment Subcommittee expired in December 2024. BOGFAC reviewed and recommended two individuals to serve four-year terms, respectively. Jason King currently serves as the investment director at the University of Notre Dame’s Investment Office and Abe Weldy currently serves as the co-chief investment officer at the Indiana University Foundation.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve Jason King and Abe Weldy for immediate four-year term appointments on the BOGFAC Investment Subcommittee, respectively.”

- c. **Fiscal Year 2023-24 consolidated audited financial statements and summary of net assets August 31, 2024.** The Finance and Audit Committee presented the NCAA audited financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2024. NCAA staff provided the board with a summary of the financials.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the FY2024 NCAA audited financial statements and summary of net assets.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- d. **2025 legal settlement payment structure.** The Finance and Audit Committee discussed the potential use of Fiscal Year 2023-24 unallocated net assets for the first expected payment of the 10-year settlement liability. It was noted that the finance committees will continue to evaluate whether the NCAA national office will be able to provide additional assistance to the Division I membership to offset the impact of the first settlement payment.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the use of Fiscal Year 2023-24 unallocated net assets for the NCAA national office’s first expected payment of the 10-year settlement liability of the House litigation.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- e. **Update on FY25.** The committees received an update on FY2024-25 actuals through November 2024. It was noted that the NCAA completed the first quarter of

the fiscal year and budgeted revenues and expenses are on pace. It was further noted that the committees will receive an update on performance in FY2024-25 during the April videoconferences.

- f. **Other.** The Finance and Audit Committee did not provide the board with additional updates.
- 8. **Communications update.** The NCAA senior vice president of external affairs provided an update on the NCAA national office's efforts to enhance communications to improve perceptions of the NCAA and increased general awareness of the positive changes being made for student-athletes. Specifically, staff noted the successful messaging campaigns launched in 2024, including Olympians Made Here, Change, and Draw the Line spots.
- 9. **Update regarding congressional engagement.** The NCAA senior vice president of external affairs and the managing director of government relations provided an update on ongoing efforts with Congress, specifically how the U.S. election results from November 2024 have impacted the Association's strategy. Staff further highlighted next steps on engagement with key committees and elected officials, as well as progress made on student-athlete employment.
- 10. **Update on sports wagering.** The NCAA senior vice president of policy and governance provided an update on the divisional governance meetings held in conjunction with the 2025 NCAA Convention in which a possible deregulation of sports wagering, specifically around professional sports, was discussed. It was noted that each division will continue discussing the issue during the April governance meetings.
- 11. **Sport Science Institute/NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports update.** The NCAA chief medical officer provided an update on the work of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports during its December 9, 2024, videoconference. It was reported that the committee discussed the Association's role in educating the membership about sickle cell disease, the committee's support of amplifying the final report from the Division III Athletic Training Working Group, and that the Injury Surveillance Data Requests Program will resume in January.
- 12. **Board of Governors Processes and Procedures.**
  - a. **NCAA Board of Governors Executive Committee October 2024 report and January agenda.** President Livingstone reported on matters discussed in the Executive Committee's videoconferences on October 23, 2024, and January 9. President Livingstone noted that during the October 2024 videoconference, the committee approved the fiscal year 2024-25 salary and compensation recommendations for national office senior staff, and changes to its charter (e.g., confirming that legal strategy and litigation settlement will be done by the full Board of Governors in consultation with the divisional leadership bodies unless time constraints do not allow; and updating the compensation policy to compensation philosophy). President Livingstone also highlighted 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.

**b. Board of Governors composition and terms of office.**

- (1) **Vice-chair election.** President Livingstone reported that the Executive Committee nominated Colleen Perry-Keith to serve as vice chair of the board from adjournment of the board's meeting through the January 2026, meeting.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors appoint Colleen Perry-Keith as vice chair of the board from adjournment of the meeting through the January 2026, meeting." **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- (2) **Term expirations in the 2025 calendar year.** The board reviewed its roster noting the members' whose terms expire during the 2025 calendar year.

**c. Update on Board of Governors feedback structure from divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees.** The three graduated student-athletes shared takeaways from their discussions with the three divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees to enhance the student-athlete feedback structure to the board. It was noted that the divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees met in a joint luncheon during the 2025 NCAA Convention to discuss the feedback structure. It was noted that additional information will be provided at future meetings.

13. **Other business.** The board did not have other business.

14. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6 p.m. Central 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 January 16, 2025, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Charlie Baker, NCAA president.	
Glenn Boyce, University of Mississippi.	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College.	
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas.	

Report of the NCAA Board of Governors

January 16, 2025, Meeting

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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.
Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.
Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Surgeon General. (attending virtually)
Josh Whitman, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
Morgyn Wynne, Graduated Division I student-athlete.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau and Stephanie Quigg.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Dawn Buth, Deena Casiero, Michael Cioroianu, Amanda Conklin, Kelly Dodds, Jennifer Fraser, Dan Gavitt, Corey Jackson, Kevin Lennon, Felicia Martin, Louise McCleary, Corbin McGuire, Mario Morris, Lynda Tealer and Stan Wilcox.

Interim Actions of the NCAA Division II Administrative Committee

1. On January 12, the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following item:
  - **Appointments to Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** The committee approved four appointments effective at the conclusion of the 2025 NCAA Convention.
    - a. East Coast Conference, **Rita-Marie Masi**, women's lacrosse and soccer, Mercy University.
    - b. Great Lakes Valley Conference, **Piper Schrepferman**, women's tennis, University of Illinois Springfield.
    - c. Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, **Connor Fournier**, football, Minnesota State University, Mankato.
    - d. Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, **Darcey Dorris**, women's indoor and outdoor track and field, Central State University.
2. On April 3, the Administrative Committee approved the following item:
  - **Appointment to Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** The committee approved one appointment effective immediately.
    - Pacific West Conference, **Mariah Hughes**, women's volleyball, Point Loma Nazarene University.
3. On April 8, the Administrative Committee approved the following item:
  - **Additional women's golf officials.** To add one additional rules official at each of the four regional sites in the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championships, effective immediately. The Division II women's golf regional field sizes have historically been smaller than the men's, but with all four regional sites expanding to 96 participants, it is important to add one official per region. This adjustment increases each regional officiating crew from four to five members, aligning the number of officials at both the men's and women's regional sites. For example, the Central Region field size is doubling from nine to 18 teams, and adding a fifth official will help ensure effective management of the larger field. As this aligns with men's golf from a gender equity standpoint, the Championships Committee believes this satisfies an exception to the triennial budget process. Finally, this aligns Division II women's golf with already established precedent in Division II men's golf to ensure gender equity across the two championships and a quality student-athlete experience at both.

# 2024-25 Division II Priorities

## CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Regionalization Review.** The Division II Championships Committee will continue to discuss the division's regionalization philosophy and opportunities to revise bracketing approaches to enhance the championships experience for participating student-athletes. Once concepts are further developed, full membership feedback will be sought.

**Winter 2025 Festival.** The first winter Division II National Championships Festival in eight years will take place March 11-15 in Indianapolis, featuring men's and women's indoor track and field, men's and women's swimming and diving, and men's wrestling.

**Championship Site Selection.** The Championships Committee and relevant sport committees will review bids and announce sites for 2026-28 championships in October 2024.

**Women's Wrestling.** The membership will vote in January at the 2025 NCAA Convention on whether to add women's wrestling as a National Collegiate Championship. It would become the 91st NCAA championship.



## STRATEGIC PLAN AND THINK TANK

Division II will continue developing its next operating plan. The division will host a think tank Sept. 16-17 during which a representative group of Division II leaders will discuss the challenges facing intercollegiate athletics and begin developing strategies and solutions.

Based on input from the governance structure regarding the draft operating plan goals and objectives and feedback from the think tank, the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee will develop the next membership census, which will be distributed in January. Census results and a membership review will inform the operating plan, which will be launched in January 2026.



## BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Governance committees will discuss potential changes to the Division II long-range budget, potential uses of additional revenue from the new media rights agreement with ESPN, and how the division manages its reserves.

## SPORTS WAGERING LEGISLATION AND WAGERING AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS SURVEY

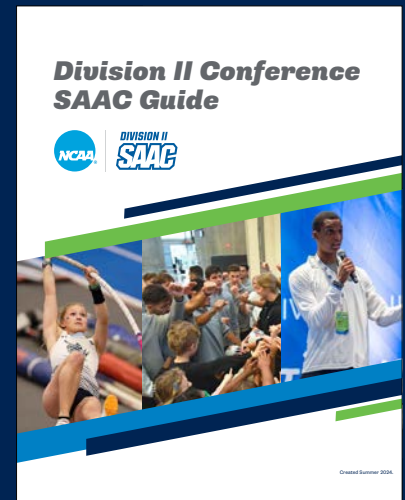
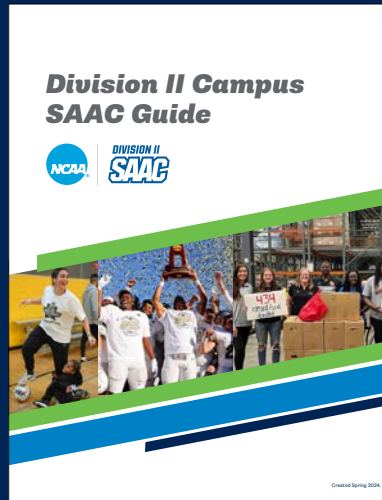
Given the evolving landscape surrounding sports wagering, the division will conduct a review of its sports wagering legislation. Throughout the summer/fall, the review will focus on data from the wagering and social environments survey, as well as seeking feedback from various membership groups regarding potential legislative changes. Assuming the adoption of a proposal(s), Division II will shift its attention to helping the membership (including student-athletes) understand the new legislation.



## SAAC PRIORITIES

The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has created new resources for the membership, including campus and conference SAAC best practice guides and a civic engagement day resource. These resources are part of SAAC's continued focus on the three E's – empower student-athletes with resources, empathize with their concerns, and enhance their voice and experience.

SAAC will still focus on congressional and civic engagement; Life After the Game; diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging; and mental health. Leading up to Election Day in November, SAAC will share civic engagement resources to help student-athletes vote. The committee will also create internal documents to aid committee members when they transition into a leadership position on the national SAAC.



## MARKETING AND BRANDING

Division II has conducted research among prospective student-athletes and those who influence where they choose to attend college. The research summarized their needs and desires when selecting a school and their perception of Division II. The data gathered through this research will help determine a media activation plan that will launch in 2025.

With the start of the NCAA's new eight-year media rights agreement for NCAA Championships in 2024-25, Division II will receive increased brand exposure on ESPN platforms. The new agreement includes broadcasting the division's football, women's volleyball and women's basketball semifinals and championship games and the men's basketball semifinals on an ESPN platform. The men's basketball championship game will remain on CBS as part of the NCAA's multimedia rights agreement with CBS and TNT Sports.

## CONTINUED REVIEW OF LEGISLATION

The Division II Legislation Committee will continue reviewing legislation and bylaws delegated to it from the Division II Implementation Committee Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee, including:

- Division II Bylaw 14 (eligibility).
- Division II Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes).
- Division II Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons).

The committee also will begin reviewing Bylaw 15 (financial aid) during the 2024-25 academic year.



DIVISION II

MAKE IT *YOURS*

## PARTNERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP

### Women Leaders in Sports

**September and October**

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

### FAR Fellows Institute

**September**

The division will host its 14th Faculty Athletics Representative Fellows Institute Sept. 27-29. The institute provides educational programming for faculty athletics representatives to help them effectively perform their roles and support student-athletes.

### SAAC Super Region Convention

**April**

The Division II SAAC will conduct its seventh super region convention April 25-27 in Indianapolis for the Central and Midwest Regions (Great American Conference, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Great Midwest Athletic Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference). Participants will engage in several important topics, including the student-athlete voice, mental health, preparation for life after athletics and more.

### Professional Development Workshop for Athletic Trainers

**June**

Athletic trainers 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 fourth and final year athletic trainers will be the focus of this workshop.

### Minority Opportunities Athletic Association Governance Academy

**June**

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**

The division is partnering with the National Association for Athletics Compliance 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

**2024-25**

The NCAA and the Division II Athletics Directors Association 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

**2024-25**

The division is partnering again with the D2 ADA to provide programming for new directors of athletics in Division II. The participants will be invited to join other active Division II athletics directors and national office staff for an orientation session to discuss topics including championships, identity initiatives and financial information. The program includes the opportunity for orientation at the NCAA Convention and National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Convention.



DIVISION II

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**NONCONTROVERSIAL**

Attached are noncontroversial proposals. NCAA Division II Proposal Nos. NC-2026-8 through NC-2026-12 are new for you to review in legislative form. These proposals have been approved by the NCAA Division II Management Council in concept but have yet to be approved in legislative form.

The Management Council has determined, pursuant to NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.3.1.1, that the following proposals are noncontroversial and necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation.

The Management Council, by a three-fourths majority of its members present and voting, shall have the authority to adopt noncontroversial amendments. Proposals that are ratified by the Management Council shall be effective as of the date the proposal is posted on LSDBi. Once ratified, the proposals will be submitted by the Management Council as legislation at the 2026 NCAA Convention.

# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-1

**Title:** ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** November 13, 2024

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** September 1, 2025

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (NCAA Board of Governors).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Organizational Structure and Committees.

**Intent:** To transition the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women's Athletics to one committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

**Bylaws:** Amend 8.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

8.6 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[8.6.1 through 8.6.2 unchanged.]

## **8.6.3 Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.**

**8.6.3.1 Composition. The Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging shall consist of 25 members, including positions allocated for individuals who serve as athletics administrators, coaches, chief diversity officers, faculty, higher education Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging practitioners/researchers/experts, student-athletes and Title IX coordinators. The committee shall include a minimum of eight members who identify as an ethnic minority, eight members who identify as male and eight members who identify as female. In addition to the division-specific positions, the committee shall include a minimum of three members from each division, including one from each subdivision of Division I. The membership of the committee shall be constituted as follows:**

**(a) One student-athlete from each divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;**

**(b) One chancellor or president from each division;**

**(c) One athletics diversity and inclusion designee from each division (two must be from within athletics and one may be from outside athletics);**

**(d) One representative from the Division I governance structure;**

**(e) One representative from the Division II Management Council;**

**(f) One representative from the Division III Management Council;**

**(g) One director of athletics;**

**(h) One conference commissioner;**

**(i) Two institutional or conference senior woman administrators;**

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

(j) One faculty athletics representative (preference to be from the FARA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee);

(k) One chief diversity officer; and

(l) Seven members who serve in one or more of the following positions at a member institution or conference:

(1) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging practitioner/researcher (preference for two);

(2) Campus and/or athletics student services professional (preference for one);

(3) Coach (preference for one);

(4) Higher education and/or athletics legal, policy, or governance expert (preference for one); and

(5) Title IX coordinator (preference for one).

**8.6.3.2 Duties. The committee shall:**

(a) Advise on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging educational resources, programming and awards for the Association;

(b) Cultivate equitable experiences and treatment and inclusive environments for student-athletes at NCAA championships and events as well as across intercollegiate athletics;

(c) Provide guidance for the office of NCAA Inclusion, Education, and Community Engagement's strategic initiatives and engagements;

(d) Support increased student-athlete participation opportunities, particularly for those from marginalized communities;

(e) Review and make recommendations on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging-related policy, legislation and other Association matters; and

(f) Support diverse leadership across intercollegiate athletics that reflects the increasingly diverse student-athlete community.

[8.6.3 renumbered as 8.6.4, unchanged.]

~~8.6.4 Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.~~

~~8.6.4.1 Composition. The Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee shall consist of 18 members, including a current chancellor or president from each division. There shall be six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility. Committee membership shall include a minimum of eight ethnic minorities, including at least four who identify as male and four who identify as female.~~

~~8.6.4.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete member of the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee shall also be a member of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.~~

~~8.6.4.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

~~(a) Review issues related to the interests and advocacy of student-athletes, coaches and administrators who are ethnic minorities, LGBTQ or who have disabilities; and~~

~~(b) Review and advocate for NCAA programs and policies that affect and include, but are not limited to, ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities and the LGBTQ community.~~

[8.6.5 through 8.6.6 unchanged.]

~~8.6.7 Committee on Women's Athletics.~~

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~8.6.7.1 Composition. The Committee on Women's Athletics shall consist of 18 members, including a current chancellor or president from each division. There shall be six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. Six positions shall be allocated for those who identify as male, six allocated for those who identify as female and six unallocated. One student athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~8.6.7.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

- ~~(a) Study and make policy recommendations concerning opportunities for women in athletics at the institutional, conference and national levels;~~
- ~~(b) Study and make policy recommendations concerning other issues directly affecting women's athletics; and~~
- ~~(c) Appoint and oversee the Woman of the Year selection committee and the process.~~

### Review History:

Aug 8, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Board of Governors.

Oct 22, 2024: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

Following the adoption of a new NCAA Constitution in January 2022, the Board of Governors began a review of Association-wide committees to determine the relevance of those committees and whether potential changes could occur to better align the committees' work with the requirements outlined in the new Constitution. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committees Review Working Group was established to carry out the review of the Committee on Women's Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and the Gender Equity Task Force. The working group collaborated with governance and membership groups to determine how best to advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) principles and initiatives through the Association. One centralized DEIB committee will be: (1) More effective and efficient with a unified, focused effort to lead on core dimensions of diversity and their intersections; and (2) More recognizable and reputable across the Association for its leadership on DEIB matters and its alignment with the NCAA Constitution's principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Gender Equity as well as the Board of Governors approved inclusion statement.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-2

**Title:** ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS -- COMPOSITION -- ENDOCRINOLOGIST

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** November 13, 2024

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Organizational Structure and Committees.

**Intent:** To specify that the position designated for an endocrinologist on the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports may be filled by a member of the general public.

**Bylaws:** Amend 8.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

8.6 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[8.6.1 unchanged.]

8.6.2 Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

8.6.2.1 Composition. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports shall consist of 25 members, including seven positions allocated for those who identify as male, seven allocated for those who identify as female and 11 unallocated. The membership of the committee shall be constituted as follows:

[8.6.2.1-(a) through 8.6.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Five members from the field of medicine, of whom at least two shall be those who identify as female. One shall be a primary-care physician who is board certified in family practice, internal medicine or emergency medicine, and shall have a current Certificate of Added Qualifications in Sports Medicine. One shall be a board-certified orthopedic surgeon. One shall be a physician with expertise in endocrinology **(who may be a member of the general public)**. One shall be a physician with expertise in drug-testing. One shall be a physician who is a member of the general public;

[8.6.2.1-(e) through 8.6.2.1-(p) unchanged.]

[8.6.2.1.1 unchanged.]

[8.6.2.2 through 8.6.2.3 unchanged.]

[8.6.3 through 8.6.7 unchanged.]

**Review History:**

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

Jun 18, 2024:	Recommends Approval - NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.
Oct 22, 2024:	Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.
Jan 14, 2025:	Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

The purpose of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) is to provide the membership with expert guidance on mental and physical health, safety and performance topics. As such, its composition reflects the need for experts with specific medical, scientific, research and sports medicine expertise. These perspectives are more relevant and more essential to the work of the CSMAS than conference affiliation. Without this recommended change, limited nominations for an expert in endocrinology may be submitted for this position due to the specialized qualification required, and it may be difficult to find a qualified replacement. If the position designated for an endocrinologist on the CSMAS is filled by a member of the general public, this individual shall not be considered the one physician who is a member of the general public as also required by the legislation.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-3

**Title:** RECRUITING -- PUBLICITY -- PHOTOGRAPH OF PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE -- INSTITUTIONAL CAMP OR CLINIC ADVERTISEMENT

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** November 13, 2024

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Recruiting

**Intent:** To permit an institution to use a prospective student-athlete's photo to advertise an institutional camp or clinic, provided the institution receives written consent from the prospective student-athlete as required by institutional and/or conference policy.

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.7.3, as follows:

13.7.3 Photograph of Prospective Student-Athlete. It is permissible for an institution to photograph a prospective student-athlete during a campus visit to be used in the institution's permissible publicity and promotional activities (e.g., press release, media guide) once the prospective student-athlete has signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. An electronic copy of the photograph may be given to the prospective student-athlete at any time. [D]

**13.7.3.1 Exception -- Advertisement for Institutional Camps and Clinics. An institution may use the photo of a prospective student-athlete who has not signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has not received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission so long as the prospective student-athlete provides written consent as required by institutional and/or conference policy.**

## Review History:

Sep 20, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Oct 22, 2024: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

## Additional Information:

Currently, an institution may use a prospective student-athlete's photo to advertise an institutional camp or clinic provided the photograph is a part of an action shot and is not staged (e.g., candid), there is no focus on one prospective student-athlete and the prospective student-athlete is not identifiable. Allowing an institution to use a photograph of a prospective student-athlete to advertise their institutional camp or clinic, while also requiring the institution to first obtain written consent before they may utilize the prospective student-athlete's photograph, will provide an institution with the flexibility to advertise their camps or clinics while also allowing a prospective student-athlete to maintain control over their privacy and their recruiting process. Finally, this will not create an additional burden on compliance administrators as many institutions

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

and/or conferences already have policies regarding obtaining consent for publicity that can be included on institutional camp and/or clinic forms.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-4

**Title:** INFRACTIONS PROGRAM -- PENALTIES -- INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** November 13, 2024

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Infractions).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Infractions Program

**Intent:** To implement changes to Bylaw 19 to focus meaningful infractions penalties on the individuals responsible for the underlying rules violations, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 11.1.2, as follows:

11.1.2 Responsibility for Violations of NCAA Regulations. Institutional staff members found in violation of NCAA regulations shall be subject to disciplinary or corrective action as set forth in the provisions of the NCAA enforcement procedures, whether such violations occurred at the certifying institution or during the individual's previous employment at another member institution.

11.1.2.1 Responsibility of Head Coach. ~~It shall be the responsibility of an institution's head coach to promote an atmosphere for compliance within the program supervised by the coach and to monitor the activities regarding compliance of all assistant coaches and other administrators involved with the program who report directly or indirectly to the coach.~~ **An institution's head coach shall be held responsible for the head coach's actions and the actions of all institutional staff members who report, directly or indirectly, to the head coach. In order to assist the NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions in penalty deliberations, the enforcement staff will gather information regarding whether the head coach promoted an atmosphere of compliance within the program and monitored the activities of all institutional staff members involved with the program who report, directly or indirectly, to the coach.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 19, as follows:

19 Infractions Program.

[19.01 through 19.2 unchanged.]

19.3 Public Disclosure. Except as provided in this article, the Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee and enforcement staff shall not make public disclosures about a pending case until the case has been announced in accordance with prescribed procedures. An institution and any individual subject to the NCAA bylaws involved in a case, including any representative or legal counsel, shall not make public disclosures about the case until a final decision has been announced in accordance with prescribed procedures.

[19.3.1 unchanged.]

**19.3.2 Public Infractions History. If the Committee on Infractions concludes an individual committed a major violation of NCAA legislation, the NCAA national office shall maintain a record of the individual's violations and penalties (if any) and make the record publicly available.**

[19.4 through 19.10 unchanged.]

19.11 Committee on Infractions Decisions.

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

19.11.1 Infractions Decision. After resolution of all allegations pursuant to Bylaws 19.8, 19.9 and/or Bylaw 19.10, the Committee on Infractions shall prepare and approve the final written infractions decision, which shall contain a statement of the findings of fact, conclusions of violations, penalties, corrective actions, requirements and (for institutions) any other conditions and obligations of membership. **The decision shall identify by name all involved individuals and boosters who committed major violations. It may also identify by name the chancellor or president of the institution in cases involving lack of institutional control and the director of athletics and/or any individual with direct responsibility and oversight of the athletics department in cases involving lack of institutional control or failure to monitor.** The decision shall be sent to the chancellor or president of the involved institution (or a designee), any involved individuals and the vice president of enforcement.

19.11.2 Public **Release of** Infractions Decision. Once the infractions decision has been provided to the institution and involved individuals, the ~~public~~ infractions decision, ~~with names of individuals deleted,~~ shall be released **publicly. The decision shall identify by name all involved individuals and boosters who committed major violations. It may also identify by name the chancellor or president of the institution in cases involving lack of institutional control and the director of athletics and/or any individual with direct responsibility and oversight of the athletics department in cases involving lack of institutional control or failure to monitor.** The Committee on Infractions shall forward a copy of the infractions decision, ~~with names of individuals deleted,~~ to the Infractions Appeals Committee at the time of the public announcement.

[19.11.3 through 19.11.5 unchanged.]

[19.12 unchanged.]

19.12.4.1 Show-Cause Order. If a determination is made by the committee that an institution has not taken appropriate disciplinary or corrective actions regarding an individual found in violation of the NCAA bylaws, the committee may issue an order that the institution take additional disciplinary or corrective action, including but not limited to restriction of some or all athletically related duties unless the institution appears before the committee to show cause why the additional penalties should not be applied. Decisions regarding disciplinary or corrective actions involving personnel shall be made by the institution, but the determination of whether the action satisfies the institution's obligation of NCAA membership shall rest solely with the Committee on Infractions. **Show-cause orders begin with the release of the infractions decision pursuant to Bylaw 19.11.2. The show-cause order is prospective in nature.**

**19.12.4.1.1 Institutional or Sport Program Penalties within a Show-Cause Order. In addition to restrictions on athletically related duties, the Committee on Infractions may also attach institutional and/or sport program specific penalties (e.g., scholarship reductions, recruiting restrictions, countable athletically related activities limitations, postseason bans) as conditions of an involved individual's show-cause order. Institutional and/or sport program specific penalties may be appropriate if, for example, the involved individual's conduct was intentional, egregious, or the conduct provided or was intended to provide an institution or sport program with a competitive advantage. Institutional or sport program penalties within a show-cause order shall apply to any employing institution during the designated period of the penalties. An employing institution may appear before the committee to show cause why the penalties should not be applied.**

[19.12.4.2 unchanged.]

**19.12.4.3 Suspensions. If a determination is made that an employing institution has not taken appropriate disciplinary or corrective action regarding an involved individual found in violation of NCAA legislation, the Committee on Infractions may issue and/or approve an order that the institution suspend the involved individual for a period of time unless the institution appears before the committee to show cause why the suspension should not be applied. Unless otherwise specified by the committee, the suspension shall apply to all athletically related duties during the designated time period. Decisions regarding disciplinary or corrective actions involving personnel shall be made by the institution, but the determination of whether the action satisfies the institution's obligation of NCAA membership shall rest solely with the committee. The suspension shall begin following the release of the infractions decision with the next scheduled contest of the championship segment.**

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

unless a different starting date is specified by the committee (e.g., conference schedule, postseason, etc.).

[19.12.4.3 through 19.12.4.7 renumbered as 19.12.4.4 through 19.12.4.8, unchanged.]

[19.13 unchanged.]

19.13.6 Decision of the Infractions Appeals Committee. After considering the appeal and deliberating privately, the Infractions Appeals Committee shall prepare a written decision and provide a copy to any appealing party (including the president or chancellor of an institution currently employing an involved individual), the chair of the Committee on Infractions, the committee appeals advocate and the vice president of enforcement, unless otherwise ordered by the committee. Once the decision has been provided to the parties, the committee shall release a public appeal decision. ~~The public appeal decision will not include names of individuals.~~ **The decision shall identify by name all involved individuals and boosters who committed major violations. It may also identify by name the chancellor or president of the institution in cases involving lack of institutional control and the director of athletics and/or any individual with direct responsibility and oversight of the athletics department in cases involving lack of institutional control or failure to monitor.**

[19.13.7 unchanged.]

[19.14 unchanged.]

### Review History:

Jun 25, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions.

Oct 22, 2024: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

The NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions (COI) reviewed the individual accountability measures recently adopted in Division I with NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2023-55 (infractions program -- penalties -- individual accountability measures). The COI also reviewed similar legislative changes captured under NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2022-17 (infractions program -- peer-review infractions process prior to appellate phase). The committee determined that several changes are appropriate for adoption in Division II to ensure that individuals responsible for an underlying wrongdoing are held appropriately accountable through meaningful penalties. These changes will provide Division II with the necessary tools and authority to effectively hold individual actors accountable by expanding upon existing penalty authority and also establishing new approaches to individual accountability, such as publicizing the names of culpable individuals in infractions decisions and a public database.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-5

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT -- ELIMINATION OF ACADEMIC YEAR IN RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** November 21, 2024

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025, for individuals who initially enroll full time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Intent:** To specify that a student-athlete who initially enrolls at a Division II institution and is charged with the use of a season of competition per the organized-competition legislation, is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible for competition in that sport.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.3.4.2, as follows:

14.4.3.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date, shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2.

[14.4.3.4.2.1 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.4.2.1.3 Academic Year in Residence. An individual who uses a season of competition in a specific sport per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition.~~

~~14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 Exception — Transfer Student. A student who has attended a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution for at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters and who has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year or four-year collegiate institution is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. This exception shall not apply to the use of a season(s) of intercollegiate competition for each 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which an individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2. (See Bylaws 14.2.9 and 14.3 for transfer and progress toward degree requirements.)~~

~~14.4.3.4.2.1.3.2 Exception — Graduate Student. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or equivalent degree program is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (See Bylaws 14.2.4 and 14.2.9 for progress toward degree and transfer requirements.)~~

[14.4.3.4.2.2 through 14.4.3.4.2.3 unchanged.]

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

### Review History:

Nov 19, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

Currently, an individual who is charged a season of competition due to the organized-competition legislation must serve an academic year in residence before being immediately eligible to represent the certifying institution in competition, unless they meet an exception. After reviewing feedback from the Division II membership and other affiliate groups, the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee determined that charging a prospective student-athlete with a season of competition was an appropriate penalty without requiring the individual to also serve an academic year in residence. Further, eliminating the academic year in residence requirement under the organized-competition legislation would enhance recruitment and student-athlete retention.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-6

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE AND INVOLVEMENT WITH PROFESSIONAL TEAMS -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY AND COMPETITION -- PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT AND COMPETITION WITH PROFESSIONALS -- ELIMINATION OF MAJOR JUNIOR ICE HOCKEY PENALTY

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** November 21, 2024

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Intent:** In men's ice hockey, to eliminate the penalty associated with an individual's participation on a Major Junior ice hockey team.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.3.4.2, as follows:

14.4.3.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date, shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2.

[14.4.3.4.2.1 through 14.4.3.4.2.2 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.4.2.2.4.1 Major Junior Ice Hockey — Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who participates on a Major Junior men's ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs. The individual shall fulfill an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3) before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition in men's ice hockey.~~

[14.4.3.4.2.3 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.8, as follows:

14.4.8 Involvement With Professional Teams.

[14.4.8.1 through 14.4.8.3 unchanged.]

~~14.4.8.3.2.3 Major Junior Ice Hockey — Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who competes on a Major Junior ice hockey team shall be subject to the seasons of competition regulations set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2, regardless of when such competition occurs.~~

[14.4.8.3.2.4 renumbered as 14.4.8.3.2.3, unchanged.]

[14.4.8.3.3 unchanged.]

[14.4.8.4 through 14.4.8.6 unchanged.]



## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

### Review History:

Nov 19, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

Currently, under the organized-competition legislation, a men's ice hockey prospective student-athlete may participate in organized competition for a maximum of three years after they graduate high school, without being charged with a season of competition. However, if a men's ice hockey prospective student-athlete participates on a Major Junior ice hockey team, they would be charged with a season of competition for each consecutive 12-month period that they participate on the team, regardless of the timing of participation. With there only being six Division II institutions that sponsor Division II men's ice hockey, eliminating the penalty tied to Major Junior ice hockey participation creates consistency in the application of the organized-competition legislation in men's ice hockey for those institutions.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-7

**Title:** INFRACTIONS PROGRAM -- VIOLATION STRUCTURE -- APPLICATION OF VIOLATION STRUCTURE AND EXCEPTION FOR LIMITED SPORTS WAGERING VIOLATIONS

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** January 16, 2025

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Infractions).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Infractions Program

**Intent:** To incorporate the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals; further, to specify: (1) violations of the sports wagering activities legislation involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individuals and the institution; and (2) in all other instances, violations of the sports wagering activities legislation may be processed at different classifications for the involved individual and institution.

**Bylaws:** Amend 19, as follows:

19 Infractions Program.

[19.01 through 19.02 unchanged.]

19.1 Violation Structure.

**19.1.1 Application of Violation Structure. The classification of a violation attaches to the conduct, not to the individual. Therefore, an institution shall be held responsible for violations committed by staff members at the same classification. Further, if violations from multiple classifications are identified, the case shall be processed pursuant to procedures applicable to the most serious violation(s) alleged.**

**19.1.1.1 Exception for Limited Sports Wagering Violations. Violations of Bylaw 10.3 involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individual and the institution. In all other instances, violations of Bylaw 10.3 may be processed at a different classification for the involved individual and institution.**

[19.1.1 through 19.1.2 renumbered as 19.1.2 through 19.1.3, unchanged.]

[19.2 through 19.14 unchanged.]

**Review History:**

Nov 21, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Feb 3, 2025: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

**Additional Information:**

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

NCAA Division II Bylaw 19 (infractions program) establishes that the infractions program shall hold institutions and their coaches accountable at the institutional and individual level. However, the Bylaw 19 structure does not contemplate assigning different classifications to parties based on the same conduct. Rather, violation classification is based on the nature and severity of the conduct, and not the identity of the actor. Therefore, the same underlying conduct cannot be major for one party and secondary for another. Consistent with this structure, the NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions (COI) holds the institution and institutional staff member responsible for the violation at the same classification and differentiates culpability through application of penalties. This proposal codifies this long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals. Further, the COI recommended a limited exception to this violation structure to allow an institution's portion of a sports wagering case to be processed at a lower level than an individual's, provided certain factors are met. The COI made this recommendation after reviewing feedback on strategies to manage the increase in sports wagering violations and ensure infractions process resources are primarily focused on sports wagering cases that impact the integrity of intercollegiate athletics.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-8

**Title:** 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

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** January 16, 2025

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility and Awards and Benefits

**Intent:** 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.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.7.5.1, as follows:

14.4.7.5.1 In All Sports:

[14.4.7.5.1-(a) unchanged.]

~~(b) Olympic or Paralympic Games. A student-athlete may participate in the official Olympic or Paralympic Games, in final tryouts that directly qualify competitors for the Olympic or Paralympic Games and in officially recognized competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic or Paralympic Games tryouts.~~

~~(c) Official Pan American or Parapan American Games Tryouts and Competition. A student-athlete may participate in official Pan American or Parapan American Games tryouts and competition, including junior-level tryouts and competition.~~

~~(d) **b) U.S. National Teams.** A student-athlete may participate in official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for the student athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation or, for student athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport).~~ **national team training, tryouts or competition events used for consideration for selection or to determine members of a national team that will participate in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Pan American Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships or the junior-level equivalent competition.**

~~(e) Official World Championships, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup Tryouts and Competition. A student-athlete may participate in official World Championships, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup tryouts and competition, including junior-level tryouts and competition.~~

[14.4.7.5.1-(f) relettered as 14.4.7.5.1-(c), unchanged.]

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

- (d) Established Regional and National Championships.** A student-athlete may participate in established regional (e.g., North American Championships, European Championships) and national championship events (including junior regional and national championships) and qualify competition for such events.
- (e) International Events.** A student-athlete may participate in the 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 (e.g., Youth Olympic Games, Junior World Championships, U19 World University Games) and qualifying competition (e.g., Olympic or Paralympic Trials) for such events.

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 16.8.1.3, as follows:

16.8.1.3 Other Competition. During an academic year in which a student-athlete is eligible to represent an institution in athletics competition (or in the next summer), an institution may provide actual and necessary expenses related to participation in the following activities: [R]

- (a) Established regional (e.g., North American Championships, European Championships) and national championship events (including junior **regional and** national championships) **and qualifying competition for such events;**
- (b) ~~One qualifying competition event per academic year for~~ **The 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 (e.g., Youth Olympic Games, Junior World Championships, U19 World University Games) and qualifying competition (e.g., Olympic or Paralympic Trials) for such events;**
- (c) National team **training, tryouts or** competition events **used for consideration for selection or to determine members of a** ~~including events from which participants are selected for another tier of tryout competition or events from which final selections are made for the~~ national team that will participate in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Pan American Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships or the junior-level equivalent competition; and

[16.8.1.3-(d) unchanged.]

[16.8.1.3.1 unchanged.]

**Review History:**

Nov 19, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

**Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of the new constitution at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council, now named the NCAA Division II Executive Board, established the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, which was charged with starting and leading the division's work. The Implementation Committee reviewed the division's rules and policies and made recommendations to ensure that changes were consistent with the principles agreed upon in the new constitution. The Legislation Committee determined that deregulating the types of events student-athletes may participate in and receive actual and necessary expenses from their institution, will provide student-athletes with additional opportunities to participate in elite-level competition. Further, this proposal will provide Division II student-athletes with access to opportunities currently available to Division I student-athletes, while also allowing institutions to support the athletic endeavors of their student-athletes.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-9

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- ICE HOCKEY -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- ANNUAL EXEMPTIONS -- WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY -- SCRIMMAGE/EXHIBITION CONTEST

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** January 16, 2025

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Intent:** 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.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.14.5.4, as follows:

17.14.5.4 Annual Exemptions -- Women's Ice Hockey. The maximum number of women's ice hockey contests/dates of competition shall exclude the following:

[17.14.5.4-(a) through 17.14.5.4-(i) unchanged.]

**(j) Scrimmage/Exhibition Contest. One ice hockey scrimmage or exhibition contest each year against outside competition.**

## Review History:

Nov 19, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

## Additional Information:

Permitting Division II women's ice hockey programs to participate in and exempt one scrimmage or exhibition contest each year will align the playing and practice season with Division I women's ice hockey. Further, Division II traditionally aligns its playing and practice seasons legislation with Division I for National Collegiate Championship sports.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-10

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- WATER POLO -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST DATE OF COMPETITION

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** January 16, 2025

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Intent:** 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.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.28, as follows:

17.28 Water Polo.

[17.28.1 unchanged.]

17.28.2 Preseason Practice.

[17.28.2-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Women. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's water polo before *September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.*

**(1) Nonchampionship Segment. September 7 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**(2) Championship Segment. Sixteen calendar days before the first scheduled intercollegiate contest.**

17.28.3 First Date of Competition.

(a) Men. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in men's water polo before the *first Saturday in September* **Friday that is 14 weeks before the start of the National Collegiate Men's Water Polo Championship, except that an alumni scrimmage may be played the weekend before the first permissible date of competition.**

(b) Women. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in women's water polo before *September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.*

**(1) Nonchampionship Segment. September 7 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**(2) Championship Segment. The Friday that is 14 weeks before the start of the National Collegiate Women's Water Polo Championship, except that an alumni scrimmage may be played the weekend before the first permissible date of competition.**

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

[17.28.4 through 17.28.9 unchanged.]

### Review History:

Nov 19, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

Establishing a first date of competition dependent on the date of the NCAA National Collegiate Water Polo Championship will promote consistency in the start of the 14-week championship segment. Further, the Division II playing and practice seasons legislation for National Collegiate Championship sports traditionally aligns with the playing and practice seasons in Division I. Therefore, amending the playing and practice seasons legislation in the sport of water polo will align Division II with the Division I playing and practice seasons legislation for water polo.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-11

**Title:** 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

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** January 16, 2025

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership and Institutional Control

**Intent:** 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.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.5.1.7.2, as follows:

7.5.1.7.2 Use of Association's Registered Marks. ~~A provisional member in year three of the membership process set forth in Bylaw 7.5 may use the registered marks of the Association (i.e., the Association's name, logo or other insignia) only in accordance with guidelines established by the Board of Governors.~~ Prior to the provisional year three designation **a provisional member reaching active status**, an institution in the membership process is limited to using Division II-specific logos ~~and a specially designed NCAA logo for provisional institutions.~~

## Review History:

Nov 13, 2024: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Membership Committee.

Jan 14, 2025: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

## Additional Information:

Under current Division II legislation, an institution in provisional year three of the Division II provisional membership process may use Division II-specific logos and the registered marks of the Association, while institutions in provisional years one and two are limited to using Division II-specific logos. Conversely, as outlined in the Division II Membership Committee's policies and procedures, institutions in the provisional membership process may only use the Division II-specific logo throughout the membership process. The committee determined that it was appropriate to amend the legislation to align with the committee's policies and procedures to specify that access to use of the registered marks of the Association should be limited to active member institutions. Aligning the legislation with the committee's policies and procedures will ensure consistent guidance is provided to provisional institutions.

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# 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2026-12

**Title:** RECRUITING AND AWARDS, BENEFITS AND EXPENSES FOR ENROLLED STUDENT-ATHLETES -- ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENT TO SEND REPAYMENT DOCUMENTATION

**Convention Year:** 2026

**Date Submitted:** January 16, 2025

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Recruiting and Awards and Benefits

**Intent:** 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.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 13.9.1.4.4, as follows:

13.9.1.4.4 Restitution. For violations of Bylaw 13.9.1.4 and its subsections in which the value of the benefit is \$200 or less, the eligibility of the prospective student-athlete shall not be affected conditioned on the prospective student-athlete repaying the value of the benefit to a charity of their choice. However, the prospective student-athlete shall remain ineligible from the time the institution has knowledge of receipt of the impermissible benefit until the prospective student-athlete repays the benefit. ~~A. Violations of this bylaw remains an institutional violations per Bylaw 7.01.9 and documentation of the prospective student-athlete's repayment shall be forwarded~~**shall be submitted** to the enforcement staff. **Documentation of repayment shall be kept on file by the institution.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 16.01.1.1, as follows:

16.01.1.1 Restitution for Receipt of Impermissible Benefits. Unless otherwise noted, for violations of Bylaw 16 in which the value of the benefit is \$200 or less, the eligibility of the student-athlete shall not be affected conditioned upon the student-athlete's repayment of the benefit to a charity of their choice. The student-athlete, however, shall remain ineligible from the time the institution has knowledge of receipt of the impermissible benefit until the student-athlete repays the benefit. Violations of the bylaw remain institutional violations per Bylaw 7.01.9, and ~~documentation of the student-athlete's repayment shall be forwarded~~**shall be submitted** to the enforcement staff. **Documentation of repayment shall be kept on file by the institution.** For violations of Bylaw 16 in which there is no monetary value to the benefit, violations shall be considered institutional violations per Bylaw 7.01.9; however, such violations shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

**Review History:**

Dec 5, 2024:	Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.
Jan 14, 2025:	Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

**Additional Information:**

## 2026 Noncontroversial Proposals

Under current legislation, an institution is required to send documentation of a prospective student-athlete's and student-athlete's repayment of an impermissible benefit to the enforcement staff. The enforcement staff have been trying to modernize legislation to no longer require institutions to send proof of repayment by prospective student-athletes and student-athletes to enforcement when reporting institutional violations that impact eligibility but allow for use of the restitution provisions. Eliminating the requirement that an institution must send repayment documentation to the enforcement staff would reflect the long-standing practice of not requiring proof of restitution along with the self-report. Further, requiring an institution to keep the repayment documentation on file is consistent with the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. NC-2020-48 (various bylaws -- eliminate requirements to report and keep on file). Finally, removing the reporting requirement will not absolve an institution from having to file an institutional violation.

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MEMORANDUM

March 5, 2025

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Division II Management Council.

FROM: Angela Red  
Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II.

Chelsea Hooks  
Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II.

SUBJECT: Inclusion of Proposals in the 2025-26 NCAA Division II Manual.

This is to recommend that the NCAA Division II Management Council approve the inclusion of the noncontroversial legislative proposals approved in legislative format and in concept at the April 2025 Management Council meeting into the 2025-26 NCAA Division II Manual. Due to the timeline of the publication of the 2025-26 Manual, the inclusion of these proposals requires official action of the Management Council prior to their appearance in the 2026 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice "blue pages" at the 2026 NCAA Convention. The NCAA staff recommends such action. [Note: These proposals are included in the Management Council's running supplements for the 2025 calendar year and will appear in the "blue pages" of the Official Notice (e.g., noncontroversial legislation).]

Each proposal (unless otherwise noted) has an immediate effective date and the proposals adopted in legislative format are effective following adjournment of the April 2025 Management Council meeting and are binding between its effective date and the 2026 Convention. If, at the 2026 Convention, the membership pulls a proposal from the "blue pages" of the Official Notice for a membership vote and the proposal is defeated, it will not be placed in the 2026-27 Manual.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 7, 2025, ELECTRONIC VOTE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- **Approval of Subcommittee Assignments.** The committee approved subcommittee assignments, effective immediately.

*Committee Chair:*

*Jason Jones, Catawba College*

*Staff Liaisons:*

*Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs*

*Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee February 7, 2025, Electronic Vote	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.	
Paul Flores II, Azusa Pacific University.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University.	
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University.	
Jason Jones, Catawba College.	
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.	
George Knox, Shaw University.	
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.	
Krista Plummer, Northwood University.	
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Andrea Webb, California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels and Katelyn Skarr.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Chelsea Hooks and Angela Red.	

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 27, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of two-year college transfer legislation set forth in NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.3.4.** The NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee engaged in a review and discussion regarding the two-year college transfer requirements. Specifically, staff presented an overview of the two-year college transfer legislation along with data that reflects academic performance of two-year college transfers upon enrollment at a Division II institution. The committee agreed to seek feedback from their institutions and conferences regarding the transferable grade-point-average calculation and will continue its discussion during its June 3 videoconference. Further, the committee discussed the academic year in residence requirement for two-year college transfers. With the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-4 (eligibility -- transfer regulations -- two-year college transfers -- eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- all other qualifiers and partial qualifiers -- elimination of English, math and science requirement for qualifiers), the committee agreed to monitor the academic progress of two-year college transfers as the legislation takes effect August 1, 2025, and will revisit the discussion at a later date, if needed.
2. **Update on NCAA Division II Academic Performance Census data submissions.** The committee reviewed Academic Performance Census data submissions for the 2024-25 academic year. Twelve institutions either failed to submit their data or submitted their data after the deadline. The committee reviewed four waiver requests from institutions that triggered the penalty for failure to submit. The waiver requests from Chaminade University, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania and Miles College were approved due to the totality of the circumstances, while the waiver request from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, was denied due to a lack of mitigating circumstances.  
  
[Note: Paul Flores II, assistant athletics director for compliance and academic support, Azusa Pacific University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting on the waiver request from Chaminade University.]
3. **Review of NCAA Division II Federal Graduation Rates and NCAA Division II Academic Success Rates.** The committee received an update on trends in current graduation rates. The national four-year Academic Success Rate increased one point to 77% overall. The federal graduation rate for student-athletes decreased one point to 59%, while the general student body remains at 53%. Scores are based on the 2014-2017 entering cohorts.

4. **Division II strategic planning process.** The committee received an update on the recommendations from the Division II Think Tank that was held in September. Staff noted that a Division II survey was sent to the broader Division II membership to gather feedback in January 2025. Governance committees will use the results of the survey to finalize the Division II Operating Plan, outline initiatives to accomplish, including the timing for them and determine a funding model for implementation. The final 2026-32 Division II Operating Plan will be shared at the January 2026 NCAA Convention.
5. **Update on Graduation Passport.** The committee received an update on a graduation passport, which is being created by Division I to better gather graduation data for transfer student-athletes, and the potential opportunity for Division II to utilize a graduation passport in the future. Staff advised the committee that discussions are still ongoing, and updates will be provided at a future meeting.
6. **Update on initial-eligibility certification data for the 2024-25 academic year.** The committee received an update on current data related to initial-eligibility certifications.
7. **Review of NCAA Division II newly adopted legislation.** Staff provided an update on the newly adopted legislation from the 2025 Convention.
8. **Update on educational initiatives.** Staff provided an update on the 2024-25 educational initiatives. Specifically, it was noted that the NCAA Regional Rules Seminar will take place May 28-30 in Indianapolis.
9. **Update from the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors at its most recent meeting.
10. **Review of the NCAA Division II Executive Board and NCAA Division II Management Council October 2024 Summary of Actions and updates from the Division II Executive Board and Division II Management Council January 2025 meetings.** The committee received an update on the action taken at the October 2024 and January 2025 Executive Board and Management Council meetings.
11. **Review of the Academic Requirements Committee September 3 and October 23, 2024, videoconference reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the reports from its September 3 and October 23, 2024, videoconferences.
12. **Review of the Academic Requirements Committee roster.** The committee reviewed the current roster and subcommittee appointments for accuracy.

**13. Future meeting dates.**

- a. June 3 videoconference, timing to be determined.
- b. September 10 videoconference, timing to be determined.
- c. February 2026; videoconference, date and timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Jason Jones, Catawba College  
*Staff Liaisons:* Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee February 27, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.	
Paul Flores II, Azusa Pacific University.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University.	
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University.	
Jason Jones, Catawba College.	
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.	
George Knox, Shaw University.	
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Krista Plummer, Northwood University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels and Katelyn Skarr.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Molly Hansen, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Mariah Murdock, Angela Red and Jenny Collins Taylor.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 9, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Regan McAthie welcomed the group and previewed key agenda items.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its December 5, 2024, videoconference, as presented.
3. **Division II Nominating Committee reports.** The committee approved the following recommendations from the Division II Nominating Committee for sport and playing rules committee appointments.
  - a. **Women's basketball rules.** The committee approved **Chandler Merkerson**, head women's basketball coach at Valdosta State University, Gulf South Conference, to replace Diane Thompson, effective immediately.
  - b. **Women's wrestling.** The committee approved the following recommended Division II appointments to the anticipated NCAA Women's Wrestling Committee, pending approval of legislation by all three divisions at the 2025 NCAA Convention to formally establish a National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championship and the accompanying sport committee, which would begin its work immediately:
    - **Lisa Goddard McGuirk** (four-year term), director of athletics, Gannon University, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; and
    - **Oscar Ramirez** (three-year term), associate director of athletics, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
4. **Division II Softball Committee report.** The committee received the softball committee's most recent report as information only, noting the approved use of video review during preliminary rounds of the Division II Softball Championship beginning with the 2025 championship. The use of video review will be permissive and not a requirement of hosting. Hosts must have used video review during the regular season in order to use during the regional and super regional rounds. The softball committee also approved using the Kevin Puga Index (KPI) to reseed teams for the finals site. The KPI will not take into consideration games played during the NCAA postseason.
5. **NCAA Football Rules Committee update.** Staff updated the committee on rules pertaining to sideline-to-player helmet technology being used thus far solely by schools in the Division I

Football Bowl Subdivision. The Football Rules Committee is exploring whether there is interest in other segments of the membership to allow this technology (acknowledging the costs associated with it) as a permissive rule. Staff noted that the idea was broached during a meeting with the Division II Conference Commissioners Association, but broader feedback is desired before the rules committee convenes in February, particularly from athletics directors and other staff who would be able to talk more specifically about the budget impact on institutions in the division.

Discussion within the Championships Committee focused on the high cost to implement the technology and the concern regarding a permissive rule becoming indirectly mandatory for schools that may feel they must invest to avoid a competitive disadvantage. Committee members also are concerned about the impact on the postseason if some conferences have implemented the technology during the regular season and others haven't. Staff appreciated the feedback and noted that it will be informative for the rules committee to consider.

6. **KPI and NPI discussion.** The committee continued its review of a results-based selection metric with the goal of determining a single metric for which to receive feedback from sport committees in the coming months. Staff also updated the committee on discussions with the Division II Conference Commissioners Association and the Division II Athletics Directors Association on the potential timeline of implementing such a metric and noted that both groups supported implementation as soon as is logistically feasible. Staff noted that based on the need for broader feedback and education regarding whatever metric is selected, the earliest feasible approval from the Division II Executive Board would be August of 2025, which would make implementation for fall sports in 2025 challenging from a membership notice standpoint. With that timeline in mind, the committee agreed to target their June meeting to determine whether to recommend that a metric be adopted via noncontroversial legislation, 2026 Convention legislation, or whether to decide not to recommend a metric for selections at all.

The committee then continued discussing whether to recommend one metric over another on which to obtain feedback. As members weighed the pros and cons of both the KPI and the NPI, the committee ultimately agreed to ask sport committees to provide feedback on using the NPI as the metric to help inform the committee's decision in June. Staff noted that the division already has allocated funding to enlist the services of a contractor to attend sport committee meetings and educate members about how the metric works.

7. **Recognition of outgoing committee members.** The committee formally recognized the outstanding contributions of the following members who are leaving the committee this month:
  - Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (Management Council liaison).
  - Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania (SAAC liaison).
  - Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University (Management Council liaison).
8. **Future videoconferences and meetings.**

- Monday-Tuesday, February 24-25, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern time both days (meeting via videoconference)
- Thursday, March 6, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference)
- Thursday, April 3, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference)

*Committee Chair:* Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee January 9, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Neil Duval, Saint Anselm College.	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (Management Council vice chair).	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Christina Paone, Walsh University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Jay Poerner, Lone Star Conference.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Stan Wagon, University of Central Oklahoma.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.	
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.	
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Brooke Dixon, Terri Steeb Gronau, Ty Halpin, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Angela Red, Alyssa Rice, Jennifer Roe, CJ Sowards and Lynda Tealer.	

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 24-25, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Football championship bracket expansion.**

- (1) Recommendation. Expand the NCAA Division II Football Championship bracket from 28 teams to 32.
- (2) Effective date. 2025 championship.
- (3) Rationale. This recommendation comes as a result of two actions taken at the 2025 NCAA Convention: 1) the Division II Executive Board's approval of additional exceptions to the triennial budget process that include bracket adjustments when a Division II championship policy is triggered; and 2) the Division II membership's adoption of a proposal to establish football as an automatic qualification (AQ) sport instead of the previous earned access model. Division II Championships Committee policy states that bracket expansion should be explored as soon as possible when more than 50 percent of the bracket is composed of AQs. Football will have 16 AQ eligible conferences for the 2025 season. With a current bracket size of 28, that would result in 57 percent of the bracket being composed of AQs. There would be no change to the championship date formula as the four No. 1 seeds would no longer have byes in this model.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. The mid-range estimate for this expansion is approximately \$545,000 to accommodate travel and per diem for the four additional teams. (The funds would come both from remaining unused funds from the last triennium and from funds anticipated for the next triennium.)
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Bracket expansion would provide a championship experience for an additional four teams, with each team consisting of a squad size of 58 individuals. These 232 student-athletes would be provided with a lifetime memory that would not otherwise be available to them if the bracket is not expanded.

**b. Football bracketing principles and priorities.**

- (1) Recommendation. Pending approval of the expanded bracket in Item 2-a above, modify 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.”
- (2) Effective date. 2025 championship.
- (3) Rationale. This policy aims to create a fair and consistent approach for determining playoff matchups when an automatic qualifier is ranked outside the top eight teams in a given super region. It ensures that the overall integrity of the playoff seeding is maintained while also acknowledging the unique situation of automatic qualifiers. This pairing helps ensure that any AQ team ranked outside the top eight does not unfairly disrupt the balance of the bracket, while still respecting the AQ process. By placing the lowest-ranked AQ against the No. 1 seed, the integrity of the playoff bracket is preserved and ensures that the highest-ranked teams are appropriately

challenged. This policy also ensures that automatic qualifiers that are not ranked in the top eight are placed in a way that maintains fairness within the playoff bracket. By pairing the lowest-ranked AQ with the No. 1 seed, the integrity of the competition is preserved, and all teams have a clear and equitable path in the championship.

*(Note: Based on results from the 2025 Division II membership survey regarding bracketing priorities and regionalization, the Division II Football Committee is requesting the ability to revisit these recommended priorities during its 2026 annual meeting.)*

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This will provide a better student-athlete experience, as it will ensure that the lowest-ranked AQ team if outside of the top eight teams in the final super region rankings will be paired against a No. 1 seed in the first round.

**c. Postseason officiating crew sizes in football.**

- (1) Recommendation. Permit officiating crews in the Division II Football Championship to continue using the same number of officials as their respective conferences have used throughout the regular season.
- (2) Effective date. 2025 championship.
- (3) Rationale. The recommendation, which the committee believes meets the newly approved officiating exception to the triennial budget process, would allow conferences that use eight-person crews to continue using eight-person crews, with the alternate official being included as the eighth member of the crew. There would not be an additional alternate official that would be assigned to games involving eight-person crews. Conferences that use seven-person crews in the regular season would continue using seven-person crews in the postseason with an alternate official still being assigned.

This adjustment is necessary to maintain consistency in officiating mechanics and to prevent disruption to the quality of officiating during the playoffs. This adjustment will not be considered when crews are selected for postseason games. It will not factor in for selections, so seven-person crews will not be penalized with fewer games only because of their on-field number. There will not be any fee increases needed for games officiated with seven on-field officials and an alternate official.

The Division I Football Championship Subdivision previously implemented a similar policy without issue. Their success demonstrates that there is no significant negative impact from allowing officiating crews to use the same number of officials throughout the postseason as they did during the regular season.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$3,930 maximum. The proposed adjustment to the officiating fee structure for eight-person crews is designed to cover the additional cost

of the eighth official. The increase in fees for the “alternate” that will be on the field in these playoff games is as follows:

- \$125 per game fee increase for the alternate in the first three rounds (\$325 fee);
- \$135 per game fee increase for the alternate for the semifinals (\$335 fee); and
- \$160 fee increase for the alternate for the championship game (\$360 fee).

For a 28-team bracket, the total potential budgetary impact would be **\$3,430**. If the 32-team bracket is approved, the total potential budgetary impact would be **\$3,930**. Not all games will be worked by eight-person crews, meaning that the actual budget impact will most likely be lower than the maximum projection.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Allowing officiating crews to continue using the same number of officials in Division II playoff games as they used in the regular season ensures consistency in officiating mechanics and reduces unnecessary adjustments of officiating mechanics, which adds to the student-athlete postseason experience.

**d. Additional women’s golf officials.**

- (1) Recommendation. Add one additional rules official at each of the four regional sites in the NCAA Division II Women’s Golf Championships.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Division II women’s golf regional field sizes have historically been smaller than the men’s, but with all four regional sites expanding to 96 participants, it is important to add one official per region. This adjustment increases each regional officiating crew from four to five members, aligning the number of officials at both the men’s and women’s regional sites. For example, the Central Region field size is doubling from nine to 18 teams, and adding a fifth official will help ensure effective management of the larger field. As this aligns with men’s golf from a gender equity standpoint, the Championships Committee believes this satisfies an exception to the triennial budget process.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$7,000 annually.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This aligns Division II women’s golf with already established precedent in Division II men’s golf to ensure gender equity across the two championships and a quality student-athlete experience at both.

**e. Change to access ratio policy.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adjust the Division II team sport access ratio policy from 4.25:6 to 4:6.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.

- (3) Rationale. During its annual review of the access ratio policy, the Championships Committee determined that adjusting the low end of the ratio is warranted given the current sport sponsorship data and championship brackets. Doing so provides the flexibility for sports below the current 4.25 to comply with the access ratio policy and facilitates/expedites opportunities for emerging sports as well.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation protects and, in some cases, expands championship participation opportunities for Division II student-athletes.

**f. Cross country selection procedures.**

- (1) Recommendation. Modify 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.
- (2) Effective date. 2025 championships.
- (3) Rationale. The current selection criteria count head-to-head wins as equal to a second-tier comparison with common opponents. The committee feels that head-to-head should mean more than comparisons to common opponents.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Regan McAthie welcomed the group and introduced new members Carlin Chesick, senior associate commissioner and senior woman administrator at the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference representing the Division II Management Council; Vaughn Williams, director of athletics at Bentley University representing the Division II Management Council; and Haley White, a field hockey and tennis student-athlete at Lincoln Memorial University representing the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
- 2. Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its January 9 videoconference, as presented.
- 3. Budget review.**
  - a. Budget-to-actuals.** The committee reviewed championships budget-to-actuals for the 2024-25 fiscal year through January 31, noting that not all expenses for fall sports have been finalized.



- b. Division II budget guidelines and principles.** The committee received an overview of the Division II Executive Board's recently approved changes to the budget guidelines and principles, including the addition of the three proposed exceptions to the triennial budget:
- Championship bracket adjustments, provided a championships policy has been triggered (for example, potential expansion when a sport's current bracket exceeds the 50 percent AQ threshold, or the sponsorship of the sport places the access ratio outside of the 4.25 to 6);
  - Technology (e.g., video replay, web streaming requirements); and
  - Officiating expenses (e.g., adjusting fees to attract quality officials).

These exceptions have been added to the division's budget guidelines and principles accordingly.

- c. Review of championships access data.** Given the approved changes to the budget guidelines, the committee reviewed the current championships access data and noted that based on the 2024-25 bracket sizes and automatic qualifying conferences, football (which due to legislation adopted at the 2025 Convention is now an AQ sport rather than earned access) and men's lacrosse, warrant bracket expansion. The Division II Football Committee already has submitted its proposal to expand the football bracket from 28 to 32 teams (see Nonlegislative Action Item 2-a.) The Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee is discussing a revised format to accommodate an increase to their bracket as well and is expected to submit a recommendation to the Championships Committee for consideration in June.

The review also prompted the Championships Committee to consider and ultimately recommend adjusting the low end of the access ratio from 4.25 to 4 to provide the Championships Committee and sport committees more flexibility in bracketing and providing maximum championship participation opportunities for the Division II membership in both existing and potentially new sports. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-e.)

*[Note: Considering the ongoing discussion the Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee is having about expanding its championship bracket (currently at 16 teams but with 10 potential automatic qualifying conferences by 2026), the Championships Committee advised considering a bracket size that would comply with both the access ratio policy and stay as close to 50% AQs as possible.]*

- d. Men's and women's tennis bracket discussions.** The committee reviewed ongoing discussions regarding the proposed changes to the men's and women's tennis brackets considering both sports at the time were not in compliance with the access ratio policy of 4.25 to 6. Men's tennis is recommending a reduction to 34 (preferred) teams in order to comply. If the adjustment to the low end of the access ratio (from 4.25 to 4) is approved as recommended in Nonlegislative Action Item 2-f, women's tennis can stay at 48.

The men's and women's tennis committee is also considering recommending that both genders reduce to eight teams at the finals site rather than the current 16 teams. This would reduce the number of regional sites and increase the number of teams at each regional. The committee is also interested in making changes to the regional sites to ensure smooth operations, including adding a site representative (tennis is the only team sport that currently does not have site representatives at preliminary rounds) and additional officials since there will be more teams at regionals. The Championships Committee agreed that these proposals had merit and asked staff to provide the budget impacts of these requests at a future meeting.

- e. **Per diem.** The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee (SPFC) asked the Championships Committee for feedback regarding future per diem increases (the division approved a \$20 increase for FY25 to align with the Division III rate). After discussion, the Championships Committee recommended a \$10 increase for 2025-26 (from \$135 to \$145) and subsequent \$5 annual increases unless circumstances suggest otherwise.

*(Note: In addition to the planned annual increase in per diem, the Championships Committee has previously discussed potentially implementing a high-cost city per diem. Staff will provide additional information, including a budget analysis, during the committee's June meeting in conjunction with the budget priorities identified through the Division II membership survey for further discussion.)*

#### 4. Committee updates.

- a. **Summary of actions.** The committee reviewed the summary of actions from the Management Council and Executive Board meetings conducted at the January Convention.

- b. **Nominating Committee.**

(1) **Sport and playing rules committee appointments.** The Championships Committee approved the following sport and playing rules committee appointments, effective as specified:

- **NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Rachel Burleson**, director of athletics, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Florida), Sunshine State Conference.
- **NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Tony Dominguez**, head men's basketball coach, Western Washington University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Carissa Cessna**, assistant athletics director for compliance, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

- **NCAA Division II Field Hockey Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Marissa Kocher**, head field hockey coach, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Football Committee** (one-year term extension; new Super Region 2) – **Brett Gilliland**, director of athletics, University of West Alabama, Gulf South Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Football Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Aaron James**, head football coach, Tuskegee University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Football Rules Committee** (one immediate vacancy) – **Doug Geiser**, head football coach, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's Lacrosse Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Daniel McCabe**, director of athletics, Adelphi University, Northeast-10 Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Women's Lacrosse Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Jennifer Pawlowski**, head women's lacrosse coach and compliance assistant, Gannon University, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Men's and Women's Skiing Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Mark Anderson**, head men's and women's skiing coach, University of Alaska Anchorage, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Matt O'Sullivan**, head men's soccer coach, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
- **NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Committee** (two September vacancies) – **Sarah Meier**, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (South Central Region); and **Kyle Ferguson**, director of athletics, Fresno Pacific University, Pacific West Conference (West Region).
- **NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Rules Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Sara Smith**, head men's and women's swimming and diving coach, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee** (two immediate vacancies) – **Jon Coles**, faculty athletics representative, Grand Valley State University, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (Midwest Region); and **Adrienne Singletary**, assistant director of athletics, Coker University, South Atlantic Conference (Southeast Region).

- **NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Bethany Blomquist**, assistant athletics director for internal operations and senior woman administrator, Azusa Pacific University, Pacific West Conference.
- **NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Dana Schwarting**, head men's and women's track and field coach, Lewis University, Great Lakes Valley Conference
- **NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Committee** (one immediate vacancy) – **Sara Higley**, senior associate athletics director, Ferris State University, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- **NCAA Division II Wrestling Committee** (one September vacancy) – **Christina Chow**, senior associate athletics director for compliance, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Conference Carolinas.

(2) **Nominating Committee policies and procedures.** The Championships Committee approved a change to the Division II Nominating Committee policies and procedures to allow for temporary placement (e.g., maternity/paternity leave, medical leave) of national sport committee members for situations in which the individual will not be able to participate in ranking calls and the selection call by allowing a current regional advisory committee (RAC) member to serve as the temporary chair for the region. The temporary chair will lead the weekly RAC calls and participate on the weekly national committee ranking calls and selection call. Currently there is no policy for temporary replacements of sport committee members. The Nominating Committee believes this replacement process will assist in these limited circumstances and will direct all Division II sport committees to adopt this process within their policies and procedures.

c. **Membership Committee.** The committee received an update from the Membership Committee that included the following:

- Status of mergers, partnerships, acquisitions and accreditation decisions that impact current Division II institutions.
- Potential noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the use of the Association's registered marks by an institution in provisional year three of the Division II provisional membership process and to specify that an institution in the Division II membership process is limited to using Division II-specific logos. This legislation would be effective immediately once approved by the Division II Management Council.
- Potential noncontroversial legislation to specify that, in men's ice hockey, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship provide there is not a men's ice hockey championship conducted in Division II (effective August 1, 2025).

- Acceptance of an application from Ferrum College, which is seeking to reclassify from Division III to Division II, to enter the expedited process effective September 1, 2025.
  - Acceptance of an application from Middle Georgia State University, which is seeking to transition from the NAIA, to enter the provisional membership process. The Membership Committee will formally consider the application during its July meeting.
  - Update on the legislation adopted by Division I at the 2025 NCAA Convention that amended the period for Division II institutions reclassifying to Division I (three years rather than four) and established certain entry and exit benchmarks.
- d. **Playing Rules Oversight Panel.** The committee reviewed reports from the panel's most recent meetings as information.
- e. **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** Haley White updated the committee on the SAAC's meeting at the NCAA Convention during which members elected a new chair and vice chair and assigned members to various Division II and Association-wide governance committees. The SAAC is developing documents for internal use that give new SAAC members an idea of what to expect during their terms. Other SAAC initiatives underway include drafting a new letter to congress that urges protection of the student-athlete experience. At its April meeting the SAAC will review results from a student-athlete-specific football survey regarding whether to move the Division II Football Championship game to January. The SAAC also is planning its next two super region conventions (April in Indianapolis for the Central and Midwest Regions, and November in Denver for the South Central and West Regions).

## 5. Sport committee reports.

- a. **Field hockey.** The committee reviewed the report from the field hockey committee's annual meeting as information, noting the committee's desire to have the selection show on Sunday, similar to Divisions I and III, rather than on Monday as is done currently. The committee will continue exploring whether this is feasible and may submit a formal recommendation once that review has been completed.
- b. **Football.**
- (1) **Bracket expansion.** The Championships Committee supported the football committee's request to expand the bracket from 28 teams to 32, effective with the 2025 championship. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-a.)
- (2) **Bracketing principles.** Pending approval of the expanded bracket, the Championships Committee also supported the football committee's recommendation to modify the bracketing principles accordingly. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-b.)
- (3) **Officiating crews.** The Championships Committee also supported the football committee's recommendation to allow officiating crews in the Division II Football

Championship to continue using the same number of officials as their respective conferences have used throughout the regular season. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-c.)

**(4) Championship date formula discussion.** The Championships Committee noted as information the football committee's discussion regarding the potential modification of the current championship date formula that would result in playing the NCAA Division II Football Championship game the first week of January. While the committee is waiting until it reviews the results later this spring from a survey of current Division II football student-athletes to finalize its stance on this matter, the committee currently supports retaining the current championship date formula, which would include keeping week zero and playing the championship game in December before the holiday break. However, the football committee plans to reconvene May 6 to revisit the issue (as well as review the feedback from the student-athletes and other stakeholders) and submit a formal recommendation for the Championships Committee to consider during its June meeting.

**c. Men's and women's cross country.**

**(1) 2026 and 2027 Midwest Region host.** The Championships Committee approved the University of Wisconsin-Parkside to host the Midwest Regional for the 2026 and 2027 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships.

**(2) Selection procedures.** The Championships Committee supported the cross country committee's recommended modifications to the selection criteria. See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-g.)

- d. Women's golf.** The committee supported allowing an exception to the triennial budget process to fund one additional rules official at each of the four regional sites in the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championships. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-d.)
- e. Women's lacrosse.** The committee approved Rochester Institute of Technology as the host for the joint Divisions II and III Women's Lacrosse Championships in 2026.
- f. Men's soccer.** The committee reviewed the report from the men's soccer committee's annual meeting as information only.
- g. Women's soccer.** The committee reviewed the report from the women's soccer committee's annual meeting as information only.
- h. Men's and women's soccer.** The Championships Committee approved a request from the men's and women's soccer committee to increase the bench size at the championships from 32 to 36. The recommendation comes as a result of teams participating in the Division II soccer championships increasingly having to put student-athletes in the stands because of bench size limits. While the soccer committees still believe that a reasonable limit is needed to continue to ensure operational control of the event, they believe an increase of four is

appropriate to improve the overall student-athlete experience while having no budget impact. The Championships Committee agreed with that rationale.

**i. Women's volleyball.**

**(1) Video review enhancements.** The committee considered but did not support the recommendation to enhance the challenge video review requirements to host a regional round of the Division II Women's Volleyball Championship. The committee cited the potential financial burden on host institutions and the lack of data to support whether these enhancements are necessary and/or would be effective.

**(2) 2025 championship site.** The Championships Committee also approved that the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference and the Sioux Falls Sports Authority host the 2025 Division II Women's Volleyball Championship at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The previously announced host for the 2025 championship rescinded its bid. The volleyball committee evaluated previous host sites to gauge interest and availability. Sioux Falls quickly expressed interest and confirmed availability of the facility, and the volleyball committee feels confident in their ability and formally asked the Championships Committee to approve awarding them the right to host.

**j. Supplemental sport committee reports.** The committee reviewed additional reports from sport committees that required no action to be taken.

**6. Additional discussion items.**

**a. Site selection updates and 2028 festival site recommendation.** Staff provided an update on the championships with outstanding site issues though 2028 (those that weren't filled in the last cycle or that experienced site changes for various reasons). Additionally, the committee reviewed potential sites for the 2028 Spring Championships Festival.

**b. Review of fall championship misconduct issues.** The committee reviewed one of two misconduct cases from the men's soccer championship and noted the sport committee's decision to issue a public reprimand and penalties as specified. While no additional action was required from the Championships Committee, members did agree that the penalties were appropriate in this case for future precedent. The other case is pending, and the committee will receive an update once it is resolved.

**c. NPI feedback process.** Staff updated the committee on feedback from the Division II Executive Board, Management Council and SAAC joint breakfast at the NCAA Convention during which members discussed and supported using a results-based metric as the sole selection criterion for team sport championships. The Championships Committee during its January videoconference agreed to ask sport committees to provide feedback specific to using the NCAA Power Index (NPI), and staff noted that NPI developer Tim Danehy will attend upcoming sport committee meetings to facilitate those discussions.

- d. **Potential Division II Women's Bowling Championship.** The committee reviewed a draft survey that will be sent to the membership in March regarding the potential for establishing a separate Division II Women's Bowling Championship. The committee provided feedback on additional questions that would be helpful. The survey feedback, as well as a budget analysis, will be provided at a subsequent meeting.
- e. **Football AQ waiver request.** The committee reviewed and approved a request from the Gulf South Conference to waive the six-institution requirement for AQ in football for the 2025-26 academic year. The conference will have only four members for the 2025 season, as Mississippi College announced unexpectedly that they were discontinuing the sport in November. The committee acknowledged that as a compelling circumstance that did not offer the conference the time necessary to rectify the situation. The committee reiterated that the waiver applies only for the 2025-26 academic year, and the conference will need to submit a second request if it is not in compliance by the 2026-27 academic year.

*(Note: Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville, recused himself from this discussion and decision.)*

- f. **Championships Committee policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the edits to the committee's policies and procedures, which include: (1) adding football as an AQ sport and removing language pertaining to earned access; (2) adding women's wrestling as a championship sport; (3) codifying the conflict of interest policy; and (4) adding language pertaining to the voting process for positions on membership-sponsored proposals. This language aligns with the Division II Management Council's policies and procedures, and all Division II committees are being asked to consider incorporating these changes into their policies and procedures as well.
- g. **Review of bench limits and average roster sizes.** As a follow up to discussions during the committee's September meeting, staff provided an overview of the current bench limits, squad sizes and travel party limits for team sports as compared to the sports sponsorship data. The committee believes this information will be helpful as the committee continues evaluating the appropriate numbers.
- h. **Regional advisory committee policies and procedures.** The committee considered and approved an update to the RAC policies to clarify that conferences are permitted to extend RAC terms beyond the initial three years. This has been the application in practice but needed to be updated for clarity.

## 7. Staff updates.

- a. **Legal.** The committee heard from the NCAA's legal counsel regarding litigation affecting the NCAA overall and Division II in particular.
- b. **NCAA fan database.** Staff updated the committee on the ongoing progress and success of the NCAA fan database, which has consistently been among NCAA President Charlie Baker's priorities since he assumed office.



- c. **Fall NCAA.com broadcast analytics.** Staff provided an overview of the broadcast analytics from the fall championships streamed on ncaa.com.
- d. **Fall championship social media analytics.** Staff provide an overview of the fall championship social media analytics and engaged the committee in a discussion regarding the value of live highlight cutting for select social media (which data indicate improve engagement).
- e. **Gender equity update.** John Baldwin joined the meeting to provide a presentation on the staff's continued efforts regarding gender equity, including the annual process to evaluate all 90 NCAA championships with a consistent rubric.
- f. **Community engagement.** Jill Willson joined the meeting and summarized the successful events that took place during the fall championships and previewed plans for the winter sports festival in Indianapolis and the men's and women's basketball championships.
- g. **2025 NCAA Convention update.** Staff updated the committee on legislation adopted at the January Convention.

**8. Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- April 3, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
- May 1, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
- June 25-26, (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- February 19-20, 2026 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

*Committee Chair:* Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee February 24-25, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Neil Duval, Saint Anselm College.	
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (Management Council vice chair).	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	

Christina Paone, Walsh University.
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.
Jay Poerner, Lone Star Conference.
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.
Stan Wagnon, University of Central Oklahoma.
Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University.
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
Jill Willson, Double L Consulting.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
John Baldwin, Eric Breece, Randy L. Buhr, Donisha Carter, Zach Christopher, Lindsey Eldred, Nate Flannery, Terri Steeb Gronau, Leslie Havens, Brian Higgins, Cara Hubert, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Mariah Martin, Ryan Rea, Angela Red, Ryan Richardson, Jennifer Roe, Rachel Seewald, CJ Sowards and Jared Tidemann.

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
APRIL 3, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Regan McAthie welcomed the group and updated members on a roster change, noting that JJ Hayes from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) transferred from his institution and has resigned from the SAAC. SAAC will appoint a new representative to the Championships Committee by the June meeting.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its February 24-25 meeting, as presented.
3. **NPI feedback process.** The committee noted its agreement to request feedback on the potential use of the results-based NCAA Power Index (NPI) as the sole criterion that Division II sport committees would use for selection purposes. The committee reviewed draft questions for the committees to consider and made adjustments accordingly to ensure consistent feedback from those groups, as well as from the Division II Athletics Directors Association board and Conference Commissioners Association in the coming weeks. The committee will review the feedback during its June meeting.
4. **Division II survey results.** The committee received a presentation from the research staff of preliminary results from the membership survey distributed in January that is the final phase of information gathering and membership input before the division begins drafting initiatives, timelines and funding priorities for the new operating plan to launch in January of 2026. The presentation included an executive summary of the entire survey followed by response summaries for championships-specific questions.

The committee focused its discussion during this session on responses to regionalization and selections, as well as the men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball championship formats. The committee during its May videoconference will review results regarding the selection shows and the National Championships Festival and then in June will focus on web streaming and remaining topics. The extensive review will help the committee make informed recommendations regarding budget allocations and potential enhancements to the division's championships program.

5. **Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- May 1, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
- June 25-26, (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- February 19-20, 2026 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

Division II Championships Committee

April 3, 2025, Videoconference

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*Committee Chair:* Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee April 3, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (Management Council vice chair).	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Christina Paone, Walsh University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Jay Poerner, Lone Star Conference.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Stan Wagon, University of Central Oklahoma.	
Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University.	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Neil Duval, Saint Anselm College.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.	
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.	
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Mariah Murdock and CJ Sowards.	

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II DEGREE-COMPLETION AWARD COMMITTEE  
MARCH 10, 2025, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** Cynthia Williams Brown, committee chair, welcomed the committee and the new member in attendance, noting that Ivana Rich will serve as the new member from the Division II Athletics Directors Association.

The committee reviewed and updated its personal information, as well as terms of office on the committee.

It was noted that Cynthia Williams Brown's term will expire in August. Since Cynthia serves as the representative from the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) on the committee, staff will contact FARA so that it can determine who the new representative from FARA will be.

2. **Approval of the May 6, 2024, Degree-Completion Award Committee Videoconference Report.** The May 2024 videoconference report was approved, as presented.
3. **Division II Degree-Completion Award Program Process.** The committee reviewed information regarding the award process, including the criteria for the award as it is posted on the degree-completion website on NCAA.org; the application questions on NCAA Program Hub; the rubric and scoring sheets used by the committee to make selections; historical information regarding statistics; budget overview for the program; and timeline for applications, selections and awards. The committee also reviewed its policies and procedures.
4. **Approval of Awardees for the 2025-26 Academic Year.** There were 119 applications that were submitted in their entirety this year. Forty-three of the completed applications were approved for funding by the committee.

The committee also named three alternates, whose applications were ranked and whose requests will be funded, if original award winners do not accept the recommended awards approved by the committee. Two applications were denied.

The total amount awarded for the 2025-26 academic year is \$438,960.

Below is the listing of those students and the funding approved by the committee for the 2025-26 awarding cycle. Final funding will be determined by updated numbers from the schools' financial offices.

Report of the NCAA Division II Degree-Completion

Award Committee Meeting

March 10, 2025

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	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
1.	Sabira Ahayeva	University of New Haven	\$4,560
2.	Dinara Alloiarova	Barry University	\$15,000
3.	Teani Arakawa	University of Hawaii at Hilo	\$3,744
4.	Maddilyn Bast	Northern Michigan University	\$13,892
5.	Noah Blythe	Hawaii Pacific University	\$10,750
6.	Anya Bogdanova	Florida Southern College	\$15,000
7.	Adeyah Brewster	Minnesota State University, Mankato	\$10,316
8.	Isabella Campos Paniagua	The University of Texas Permian Basin	\$4,391
9.	Karim Carreras Lampert	University Of New Haven	\$15,000
10.	Abbigail Cataldo	Delta State University	\$6,360
11.	Erine Collard	Academy of Art University	\$15,000
12.	Alexis Durham	University of Mount Olive	\$10,750
13.	Kelly Eberly	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	\$9,645
14.	Syann Fairfield	Ferris State University	\$7,700
15.	Kristian Figueroa	Cedarville University	\$10,750
16.	Haylie George	Coker University	\$15,000
17.	Lukasz Gorka	Lewis University	\$15,000
18.	Kiya Hamar	Western New Mexico University	\$11,596
19.	Chesnie Hewitt	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	\$3,786
20.	Aaron Himes	Lee University	\$15,000
21.	Samantha Hulstaert	Lincoln Memorial University	\$12,309
22.	Alexsa Hurd	Slippery Rock University	\$7,276
23.	Jasmine Jamison	Ursuline College	\$15,000
24.	Nina Klug	Barry University	\$12,600
25.	KaCee Kyle	Cedarville University	\$15,000
26.	Natalia Lambos	Fort Lewis College	\$8,000
27.	Alexis Love	Auburn University at Montgomery	\$2,226
28.	Danielle Luckey	Auburn University at Montgomery	\$10,750
29.	Jeremia Montgomery	Union University	\$10,750
30.	Jumai Muhammed	Clark Atlanta University	\$10,750
31.	Morgan Norris	Regis University	\$15,000
32.	Nicholas Novak	St. Cloud State University	\$8,020
33.	Marina Obradovic	Texas Woman's University	\$9,610
34.	Natalie Piper	Caldwell University	\$15,000
35.	Jaden Potts	King University	\$15,000
36.	Taylor Priestley	Northern Michigan University	\$10,420
37.	Hanna Reichenberger	Winona State University	\$4,803
38.	McKenzie Reynolds	West Virginia Wesleyan College	\$9,000
39.	Ashleigh Rothe	Grand Valley State University	\$10,750

Report of the NCAA Division II Degree-Completion

Award Committee Meeting

March 10, 2025

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	Name	Institution	Award Amount
40.	Hui Jen Soo	Millersville University	\$11,116
41.	Avery Spencer	West Chester University	\$3,858
42.	McKenna Taylor	Winona State University	\$3,773
43.	Grace Williams	Missouri Western State University	\$4,709
<b>Total Amount Awarded</b>			<b>\$438,960</b>

5. **Recommended Changes/Enhancements to the Degree-Completion Award Process for the 2026-27 Cycle.** Following the selection process, the committee discussed possible enhancements to the degree completion award forms for the 2026-27 cycle.
6. **Notice of Committee Chair Election.** The committee was informed that Cynthia Williams Brown's term as chair will expire in August. Individuals interested in seeking the position should voice that interest in order to conduct an election during the next videoconference.
7. **Future Meetings.** The committee agreed to hold a videoconference May 6, 2025, to review any changes recommended for the next cycle and to be updated on any issues that may transpire in the awarding process.
8. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned Monday, March 10, at approximately 4 p.m.

*Committee Chair:* Cynthia Williams Brown, Winston-Salem State University

*Staff Liaison:* Ann Martin, Associate Director of Division II

<b>NCAA Division II Degree-Completion Award Committee March 10, 2025, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Andro Barnett, Shepherd College.	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Cynthia Williams Brown, Winston-Salem State University.	
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.	
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Ivana Rich, Edward Waters University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison:</b>	
Ann Martin, Associate Director of Division II.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Maritza Jones, Managing Director of Division II.	
Karen Keyler, Coordinator of Division II.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II INFRACTIONS APPEALS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 7, 2025, ELECTRONIC VOTE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- NCAA Division II Infractions Appeals Committee Internal Operating Procedures (IOPs).
  - (a) Recommendation. Approve the attached Division II Infractions Appeals Committee IOPs.
  - (b) Effective date. Immediate.
  - (c) Rationale. As part of the Infractions Appeals Committee's comprehensive review of the infractions appeals process, the committee is recommending, for approval, substantive changes to its procedures. The committee is recommending a change from policies and procedures to the format and structure of IOPs. Additionally, the committee recommends adding and/or modifying the language of the procedures to create a more detailed description of the infractions appeals process.
  - (d) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (e) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- None.



Report of the NCAA Division II Infractions Appeals Committee

Electronic Vote

February 7, 2025

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*Committee Chair: Eddie Weatherington, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association*

*Staff Liaisons: Alexander Smith, Infractions Appeals Committees Office*

*Wendy Walters, Infractions Appeals Committees Office*

NCAA Division II Infractions Appeals Committee February 7, 2025, Electronic Vote	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Douglas Blais, Southern New Hampshire University.	
David Hicks, King University.	
Chris Snyder, Seton Hill University.	
Eddie Weatherington, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Alexander Smith and Wendy Walters.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Kelley Sullivan.	



## Summary of Changes to the Infractions Appeal Process

As part of the NCAA Division II Infractions Appeals Committee's comprehensive review of the infractions appeals process, the committee is recommending, for approval, substantive changes to its procedures.

The committee is recommending a change from policies and procedures to the format and structure of internal operating procedures. Additionally, the committee recommends adding and/or modifying the language of the procedures to create a more detailed description of the infractions appeals process.

In Attachment B, excerpts of the internal operating procedures, the following sections have been added or changed<sup>1</sup>:

Procedure	Description of Change
1-1	Incorporation of NCAA Bylaw 19.5.1 - composition of committee.
1-2	Incorporation of Bylaw 19.5.4 - authority of committee.
1-3	Incorporation of Bylaw 19.5.3 - term of office.
1-4	This procedure captures the current responsibilities and duties of the chair of the committee. The committee did not add new responsibilities to the role.

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<sup>1</sup> Green items are new items added to the procedures and blue items are modifications of current procedure language.

1-5	The committee decided to add a vice chair role to help prepare a committee member to serve in the role of chair or to act if the chair is unavailable. He/she is included in staff's communications and discussions with the chair.
1-6	Incorporation of Bylaws 8.02.3 - conflict of interest and 19.5.2 - conflict of interest.
1-7	The committee added a timeline in which a party may raise objections to the participation of a committee member in a particular case. Such an objection must be raised at least one week in advance of the committee's review of the case.
1-8	The committee added language to permit a former member to rejoin the committee if one or more current members are unavailable to participate in the deposition of a case.
Section 2	Incorporation of Bylaw 19.3 - public disclosure.
3-3	The committee added a footnote stating that the Infractions Appeals Committee will consider hearing an oral argument via a videoconference. In the past, the Infractions Appeals Committee has considered and granted requests to conduct the oral argument via videoconference.
4-1-3	This language was modified to more closely mirror the language of Bylaws 19.02.2 - new information and 19.13.4 - information considered on appeal.
5-1	The committee added language that written submission, other than the notice of intent to appeal, must be submitted by 5 p.m. Eastern time on the due date. Additionally, if the due date falls on a weekend or federal holiday, the due date will be moved to the next calendar day that is not a weekend or federal holiday.
6-3	The committee added language that failure to submit a written appeal will result in dismissal of the appeal.
7-1	Incorporation of Bylaw 19.13.3.2 - content of Committee on Infractions' response.

12-2-2-2	While it is rare that an appellant fails to appear for an oral argument which he/she requested, it has happened at least once in the past. This procedure identifies the affirmation of appealed findings and penalties as the case outcome if the appellant fails to appear for an oral argument.
14-1	These sections identify the staff of the new Infractions Appeals Committees Office and the process for answering questions regarding the infractions appeals process.
14-2	Information about the submission of requests to the Infractions Appeals Committee.

NCAA Division II Infractions Appeals Committee  
 Procedural Additions or Changes

Procedure Number	Text of Procedures
1-1 NEW – Incorporation of NCAA Bylaw 19.5.1	<p><b>Composition</b></p> <p>The Infractions Appeals Committee shall consist of five members, including one member of the NCAA Division II Management Council, one individual from the general public who is not associated with a collegiate institution, conference, professional or similar sports organization, or who represents coaches or athletes in any capacity, and three additional individuals selected "at-large" from the membership.</p> <p>For the current composition of the Infractions Appeals Committee, visit its webpage by clicking <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p>
1-2 NEW – Incorporation of Bylaw 19.5.4	<p><b>Authority</b></p> <p>The Infractions Appeals Committee shall hear and act on an institution or involved individual's appeal of the conclusions and/or penalties of major violations by the committee.</p>
1-3 NEW – Incorporation of Bylaw 19.5.3	<p><b>Term of Members</b></p> <p>A member shall serve a three-year term. A member may be reappointed but shall not serve more than nine years on the committee. For the individual serving as the representative from the Management Council, service shall coincide with his or her service on the Council.</p>
1-4 NEW – Incorporation of current practice of chair	<p><b>Duties of Chair</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coordinate with the Infractions Appeals Committees Office:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Logistics, administrative and other support related to the processing of infractions appeals cases;</li> <li>(2) Scheduling committee meetings, conference calls and scheduling oral arguments; and</li> <li>(3) Scheduling release of infractions appeals decisions.</li> </ol> </li> <li>b. Assign a committee member to serve as primary committee member for decision drafting; and present Infractions Appeals Committee's reports (in person and written) to the Management Council.</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Consider and decide case-related requests (e.g., time extension, oral argument attendance) in consultation with the full committee.</li> <li>d. Preside over in-person oral arguments and deliberations related to infractions appeals cases.</li> <li>e. Review and approve the final version of press release and decision of infractions appeals cases.</li> <li>f. Serve as the primary spokesperson for the Infractions Appeals Committee.</li> </ul>
1-5 NEW – Creates duties for a vice chair	<b>Duties of Vice Chair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Serve as a resource for the chair.</li> <li>b. Fulfill the duties of the chair, when the chair is unavailable to conduct duties.</li> <li>c. It is expected that the vice chair will become chair of the committee when the chair's term expires.</li> </ul>
1-6 NEW – Incorporation of Bylaws 8.02.3 and 19.5.2	<b>Conflict of Interest</b> <p>No member of the Infractions Appeals Committee shall participate in a case if he or she is directly connected with an institution under investigation or if he or she has a personal, professional or institutional affiliation that may create the appearance of partiality.</p> <p>Committee members shall not participate in the committee's review, deliberation, discussion or vote on any action that might bring direct or indirect financial benefit to the member or any organization in which the member is financially interested (other than the member's institution or the conference of which it is a member). A violation of this rule by a committee member shall not invalidate the action taken by the committee if, following disclosure of the conflict of interest, the committee authorizes, ratifies or approves the action by a vote sufficient for the purpose, without counting the vote of the committee member with the conflict of interest, and the Management Council approves such action. All committee members shall agree to this policy prior to committee service and shall abide by the policy at all times. The current Association-wide conflict of interest policy is located on the NCAA website (<a href="http://ncaa.org">ncaa.org</a>) or may be obtained from the NCAA national office.</p>

<p>1-7 MODIFIED – Adding timeline to objections</p>	<p><b>Recusals and Objections</b></p> <p>It is the responsibility of the committee member to recuse himself or herself if a conflict exists. <b><u>Objections to the participation of a committee member in a particular case should be raised as soon as recognized, but will not be considered unless raised at least one week in advance of the committee's review of the case.</u></b></p>
<p>1-8 NEW – Incorporation of current practice for substitutions</p>	<p><b>Temporary Substitution</b></p> <p>If it appears that one or more of the committee members will be unable to participate in the disposition of a case, the chair may designate a former member or members of the committee to rejoin the committee for purposes of consideration and disposition of that case.</p>
<p>Section 2 NEW – Incorporation of Bylaw 19.3</p>	<p><b>Confidentiality</b></p> <p>Enforcement staff, Committee on Infractions and Infractions Appeals Committee</p> <p>Except as provided in Bylaw 19, the Committee on Infractions, the Infractions Appeals Committee and the enforcement staff shall not make public disclosures about a pending case until the case has been announced in accordance with prescribed procedures.</p> <p>Institutions and Individuals</p> <p>An institution and any individual subject to the NCAA constitution and bylaws involved in a case, including any representative or counsel, shall not make public disclosures about the case until a final decision has been announced in accordance with prescribed procedures.</p>
<p>3-3 MODIFIED – Added a footnote regarding videoconference option</p>	<p><b>Methods of Appeal</b></p> <p>The appeal may be heard through either in-person oral argument or review of written record. An institution or involved individual may not request an in-person oral argument before the Infractions Appeals Committee unless the institution or involved individual has made an in-person appearance before the Committee on Infractions.</p> <p><b><u>Footnote added: The Infractions Appeals Committee will consider hearing an oral argument via videoconference in extenuating circumstances.</u></b></p>

<p>4-1-3, 4-1-3-1 and  4-1-3-2  MODIFIED –  Clarified to make  consistent with  Bylaw 19.13.4</p>	<p><b>New Information</b></p> <p>Definition of New Information  New information is relevant, material information that could not have reasonably been ascertained prior to the Committee on Infractions hearing.</p> <p>Handling New Information  If the Infractions Appeals Committee determines that the information is new information, <u>the Infractions Appeals Committee, after input from a Committee on Infractions' designee, shall determine whether the "new information" could have materially affected any decision made by the Committee on Infractions, and if so, the case shall be referred back to the Committee on Infractions for its review.</u></p> <p>If the information does not meet the definition of "new information" or if the "new information" would not have materially affected a decision made by the Committee on Infractions, the information shall not be included in the record on appeal and shall not be considered by the Infractions Appeals Committee.</p> <p>The Infractions Appeals Committee will provide written notice to all parties regarding its determination.</p>
<p>5-1  NEW</p>	<p><b>Submissions of Written Material</b></p> <p>Deadlines for the submission of written documents within the infractions appeals process, except for the Notice of Intent to Appeal, shall be considered met if the written document is submitted electronically to the Infractions Appeals Committees Office staff not later than 5 p.m. Eastern time on the due date.<sup>1</sup> Electronic submission to the staff shall be completed through a method designated by the Infractions Appeals Committee.</p> <p>Immediately after electronic submission, hard copies of the written documents shall be provided directly from the filing party to all members of the Infractions Appeals Committee.</p> <p><sup>1</sup> If a due date for a submission process falls on a weekend or federal holiday, the due date will be moved to the next calendar day that is not a weekend or federal holiday.</p>



6-3 NEW	<p><b>Failure to Submit Written Appeal</b></p> <p>Failure to submit a written appeal will result in dismissal of the appeal.</p>
7-1 MODIFIED – incorporation of Bylaw 19.13.3.2	<p><b>Content</b></p> <p>This response shall include <b><u>a statement of the issue(s) raised in the appeal and the Committee on Infractions’ response to the issue(s) raised in appeal.</u></b></p>
12-2-2-3 NEW – Confirms that appeal will be dismissed if fail to appear at oral argument	<p><b>Failure of Appellant to Appear</b></p> <p>If the appellant fails to appear at the oral argument, the Infractions Appeals Committee will dismiss the appeal and affirm any appealed factual findings, conclusions, violations and/or penalties.</p>
14-1 NEW – Adds contact information for questions	<p><b>Infractions Appeals Committees Office</b></p> <p>The Infractions Appeals Committees Office staff is available to assist all of those involved in the infractions appeals process. If you have questions about the infractions appeals process, please feel free to contact the staff at the NCAA national office via telephone (317-917-6222), email (<a href="mailto:IACAdmin@ncaa.org">IACAdmin@ncaa.org</a>), or case discussion posting (for an open appeal case).</p> <p>The staff includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wendy A. Walters, managing director of Infractions Appeals Committees.</li> <li>b. Alex Smith, director of Infractions Appeals Committees.</li> <li>c. Kelley Sullivan, assistant coordinator of Infractions Appeals Committees.</li> </ul>
14-2 MODIFIED	<p><b>Submit Request to the Committee – for Open Appeal Cases</b></p> <p>All requests (e.g., extension, additional oral argument attendees, etc.) to the Infractions Appeals Committee must be submitted via the <b><u>NCAA Infractions Portal</u></b>.</p>

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 18, 2025, ELECTRONIC VOTE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM.**

- **Approval of Division II University test bank for required courses, policies and procedures and communication plan for the 2025-26 academic year.** The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee reviewed and approved the test questions to be included in the 2025-26 coaches certification learning plan, the 2025-26 Division II University policies and procedures and the communication plan to inform the membership of the release of the learning plan.

*Committee Chair:* Audra Kedy, Great American Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislation Committee February 18, 2025, Electronic Vote	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University.	
Santee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University.	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Denton, Chelsea Hooks and Megan Villanueva.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Angela Red.	

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
MARCH 18-19, 2025, IN-PERSON MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

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

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.4 (financial donations from outside organizations), as specified.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, the legislation permits an institution or conference to enter into a sponsorship/partnership agreement with a third-party organization (e.g., professional sport leagues) so long as the organization is not identified as a sponsor. There have been ongoing discussions on ways the national office may build relationships with third-party organizations. Deregulating Bylaw 7.4 will provide institutions, conferences and the national office with the discretion to enter into agreements with a third-party organization, while maintaining appropriate guardrails.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

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

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt 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.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, male practice players may not receive any benefits or expenses set forth in Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes), including travel expenses in conjunction with an institution's away-from-home competition. It is common for male practice players to participate in practice sessions with women's teams for a variety of reasons such as roster depletion due to injury/illnesses. Allowing institutions the discretion to provide male practice players with travel

expenses to participate in practice sessions for an institution's away-from-home competition will ensure the team can adequately prepare for an opponent in the same manner it would for a home competition.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

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

(1) Recommendation. Adopt 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.

(2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.

(3) Rationale. With the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-2 (recruiting and playing and practice seasons -- tryouts and general playing-season regulations -- mandatory medical examinations -- timing of medical examination), the timing of when a medical examination needs to be conducted prior to a tryout will be extended from six months to one year, effective August 1, 2025. However, since Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examination) is a common provision, the timing by which a medical exam must occur prior to a tryout for a currently enrolled student will remain at six months, which conflicts with the legislation outlined in Bylaw 17.02.15 (tryouts -- enrolled student). Amending this bylaw will eliminate any confusion regarding the application of the common provision to currently enrolled students who are participating in a tryout.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Request to approve the 2025-26 Amateurism Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures.**

(1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council approve the 2025-26 Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures. [Attachment A]

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee Legislative Review Subcommittee is charged with making factual determinations as part of the amateurism certification process. The policies and procedures outline that any revisions must be approved by the Management Council.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete well-being. None.

**b. Legislative referral to the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council request 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.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Under current legislation, a team may not compete against other member institutions or American teams during a foreign tour. Allowing women's basketball teams to compete in one contest against any team while on a foreign tour will provide Division II institutions with additional opportunities to participate in guaranteed games during a foreign tour. Further, the recommendation will result in compelling matchups, which can drive additional interest in the sport. Finally, this recommendation will increase the exposure of Division II institutions, as the recruitment of international student-athletes continues to increase in women's basketball.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Request for feedback from the NCAA Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators -- Bylaw 15.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council request that the Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators provide feedback on whether it is appropriate to amend Bylaw 15, as specified.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. As part of the work of the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, the Legislation Committee was charged with reviewing

Bylaw 15 (financial aid). The committee completed its review during its March 18-19, 2025, in-person meeting and requested feedback on whether amending Bylaw 15 is appropriate. Specifically, the committee is recommending, 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.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete well-being. None.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

##### **1. Discussion regarding Division II legislation adopted at the 2025 NCAA Convention.**

- a. **Proposal No. 2025-2 (recruiting and playing and practice seasons -- tryouts and general playing-season regulations -- mandatory medical examinations -- timing of medical examination).** The committee discussed whether Bylaw 17.02.15 (tryouts -- enrolled student) should be amended to alleviate potential confusion amongst the membership regarding the timing of when a medical examination for currently enrolled students must occur. The committee recommended noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 17.02.15, to specify that a medical examination for currently enrolled students must be administered within six months prior to participation in a tryout. [See Legislative Action Item No. 1c].
- b. **Proposal No. 2025-5 (eligibility -- athletics eligibility -- seasons of competition: 10-semester/15-quarter rule -- criteria for determining season of eligibility -- minimum amount of competition -- participation during initial year of collegiate enrollment).** The committee reviewed and discussed the educational column associated with the adoption of Proposal No. 2025-5. Specifically, the committee discussed whether the educational column should be updated to clarify the application of the 30% calculation as it relates to a region challenge event in basketball. The committee recommended staff update the educational column to

clarify that contests played in a region challenge event in basketball should be included when determining the 30% calculation.

2. **Discussion regarding potential interactions between NCAA and third-party organizations.** The committee continued its discussion regarding potential collaborations that would allow more opportunities for institutions and the NCAA to engage with third-party organizations (e.g., professional sports leagues). The committee recommended noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.4 (financial donations from outside organizations) to provide more opportunities for institutions and the NCAA to engage with these entities. [See Legislative Action Item No. 1a.] The committee will review a draft of the legislative recommendation at its May 20-21 videoconference.
3. **Discussion regarding the Implementation Committee's Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee priority two and three items.** The committee continued its review on Bylaw 15 (financial aid) and reviewed data specific to the Division II equivalency limits. Based on the financial aid data from the NCAA Division II Institutional Performance Program, the committee determined a legislative change to the equivalency limits was not necessary at this time [Attachment B]. Further, the committee recognized that the potential action from the NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group on the seasons of competition and period of eligibility legislation may require the committee to revisit the equivalency limits. The committee also discussed next steps regarding membership feedback on potential Bylaw 15 concepts. Specifically, the committee recommended that the Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators assist with gathering feedback on its recommended concepts. [See Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2c.] Additionally, the committee continued its review of Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) and will continue its discussion at its May 20-21 videoconference.
4. **Review of the 2025-26 NCAA Eligibility Center Amateurism Certification Process Policies and Procedures and the 2025-26 Amateurism Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved updates to the 2025-26 NCAA Eligibility Center Amateurism Certification Process Policies and Procedures and approved the 2025-26 Amateurism Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures. [See Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2a.] [See Attachment A.] The committee also determined that the Legislative Committee Legislative Review Subcommittee shall have final authority to review and approve the Eligibility Center Amateurism Certification Process Policies and Procedures and the Amateurism Fact-Finding Policies and Procedures moving forward.
5. **Review of the February 11, 2025, videoconference report of the Legislation Committee Legislative Review Subcommittee.** The committee reviewed and approved the Legislative Review Subcommittee's February 11, 2025, videoconference report. The committee approved the subcommittee's recommendation for sponsorship of one noncontroversial proposal [Legislative Action Item No. 1b] and the referral of one legislative concept to the Division II Women's Basketball Committee [Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2b].

6. **Review of the February 24, 2025, videoconference report from the Legislation Committee Interpretations Subcommittee.** The committee reviewed and approved the Interpretations Subcommittee's February 24, 2025, videoconference report. The committee approved the subcommittee's recommendation to issue an official interpretation and agreed to incorporate the interpretation into the Division II Manual.

**Removal of the Contact Prohibition Due to an Institution's Closure or Discontinuation of a Sports Program (II).**

**Date Issued:** February 24, 2025

**Date Published:**

**Item Ref:** 6

The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee Interpretations Subcommittee determined that a signed prospective student-athlete may be released from the contact prohibition once an institution announces its closure or discontinuation of the signed prospective student-athlete's sport. Once an institution publicly announces its closure or the discontinuation of the signed prospective student-athlete's sport, an institution must remove the prospective student-athlete's signed status from the appropriate NCAA application within seven business days of the announcement.

[References: NCAA Bylaws 13.1.1.2 (signed prospective student-athletes) and 13.1.1.2.1 (duration of contact prohibition)]

7. **Review of the Legislation Committee's policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved updates to its policies and procedures.
8. **Discussion on Division II recruiting calendars.** The committee discussed the recruiting calendars for the 2025-26 academic year. Specifically, the committee discussed the deregulation of Bylaw 13 (recruiting) and the impact on the recruiting calendars moving forward. The committee recommended staff consolidate the recruiting calendars for the 2025-26 academic year.
9. **Update on sports wagering review.** The committee received an update regarding the ongoing discussions related to the review of the sports wagering legislation.
10. **Division II University update.** The committee received an update on the upcoming launch of the 2025-26 Coaches Certification Learning Plan. Specifically, the committee was notified that the NCAA Coaches Assist for Sexual Violence Prevention course would not be included in the learning plan. The committee did not recommend adding an additional course to replace the NCAA Coaches Assist for Sexual Violence Prevention course.
11. **Overview of the Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Assist Platform.** The committee received an overview of the Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Assist Platform.



12. **Update from the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the most recent Board of Governors meeting.
13. **Update from the NCAA Division II Executive Board and Management Council winter 2025 meetings.** The committee received an update on the actions taken at the Executive Board and Management Council winter 2025 meetings.
14. **Approval of the November 18-19, 2024, in-person meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved its November 18-19, 2024, in-person meeting report.
15. **Vice chair election.** The committee elected Ashley Grimm, associate director of athletics, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, as vice chair, effective immediately.
16. **Subcommittee appointment.** The committee appointed Sandee Mott, director of athletics, Texas Woman's University, to the Interpretations Subcommittee, effective immediately.
17. **Future meeting dates.**
  - a. 4 to 5 p.m. Eastern time, May 5, 2025, videoconference.
  - b. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern time, May 20, 2025, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern time, May 21, videoconference.
  - c. November 17-18, 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - d. March 10-11, 2026, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair:* Audra Kedy, Great American Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs

Report of the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee

March 18-19, 2025, In-Person Meeting

Page No. 8

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NCAA Division II Legislation Committee March 18-19, 2025, In-Person Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University.	
Santee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University.	
Grace Hoeppner, Michigan Technological University.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Denton, Chelsea Hooks and Megan Villanueva.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels, Danielle Day, Mike DeCesare, Terri Steeb Gronau, Molly Hansen, Brittney Jackson, Angela Red, Jared Tidemann and Sarah Turner.	



**NCAA DIVISION I  
PREENROLLMENT AMATEURISM  
CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**NCAA DIVISION II  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATIVE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE**

**NCAA DIVISION III  
INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR AMATEURISM FACT-FINDING**

**2025-26 AMATEURISM FACT-FINDING  
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- 1. Legislated Duties.** The NCAA Division I Preenrollment Amateurism Certification Committee (Division I Bylaw 21.10.6.6.4.2), Division II Legislation Committee Legislative Review Subcommittee (Division II Bylaw 8.4.3.5.2) and Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee Subcommittee for Amateurism Fact-Finding (Bylaw 21.9.5.8.2 [international prospective student-athletes only]) shall be responsible for making a determination of facts related to a PSA's amateurism certification, per the policies and procedures set forth herein.
- 2. Responsibilities.**
  - a. Develop policies and procedures regarding the amateurism fact-finding process.
  - b. Determine fact-finding requests related to a PSA's amateurism certification.
    - Adhere to amateurism fact-finding policies and procedures.
  - c. Provide annual fact-finding statistics to the Division I Legislative Committee, Division II Legislation Committee and Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee.
- 3. Composition and Reporting Lines.** The Division I Preenrollment Amateurism Certification Committee consists of seven members (Division I Bylaw 21.10.6.64.1.1), including four members from autonomy conferences (Division I Bylaw 9.2.2.1.1) and one member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The committee reports to the Division I Legislative Committee, which approves amateurism fact-finding policies and procedures.

The Division II Legislative Review Subcommittee consists of five members from the Division II Legislation Committee, and the Division II Management Council approves amateurism fact-finding policies and procedures.

The Division III Subcommittee for Amateurism Fact-Finding consists of five members from the Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee, which approves amateurism fact-finding policies and procedures.
- 4. Terms.** Division I Preenrollment Amateurism Certification Committee members are appointed to one four-year term, which generally commences on September 1 after appointment. A committee member may be appointed to an additional term after three years have elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on the committee may not serve further. Service on the Division II Legislative Review Subcommittee runs concurrently with Division II Legislation Committee terms. Service on the Division III Subcommittee for Amateurism Fact-Finding runs concurrently with Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee terms.
- 5. Resignation.** If a committee member resigns, the individual must provide written notice to the staff liaison. Thereafter, procedures to solicit a new member will be initiated, and a new committee member will be appointed.

**6. Chair Selection.** The staff liaison solicits nominations from committee members, and the committee appoints a chair and vice chair based on majority vote. The committee chair and vice chair serve in such capacity for the remainder of each individual's term.

**7. Duties.**

**a. Chair.**

- (1) Review materials before each videoconference.
- (2) Conduct committee videoconferences (e.g., identify conflicts of interest, lead discussion and deliberation).
- (3) Determine whether to hear a fact-finding request submitted after the deadline.
- (4) Provide notice of inability to participate in a videoconference.
- (5) Recuse from fact-finding requests, as appropriate (e.g., conflict of interest).
- (6) Adhere to policies and procedures.

**Note:** The vice chair may assume such duties if the chair is unavailable or has a conflict of interest.

**b. Committee members.**

- (1) Review materials before each videoconference.
- (2) Participate in all videoconferences.
- (3) Provide notice of inability to participate in a videoconference.
- (4) Recuse from fact-finding requests, as appropriate (e.g., conflict of interest).

**Note:** Student-athlete members may not participate in making a determination of facts.

- (5) Adhere to policies and procedures.

**c. NCAA staff.**

- (1) Review and process amateurism certifications.
- (2) Provide complete materials for fact-finding requests.
- (3) Objectively present information related to fact-finding requests.
- (4) Notify the institution of the fact-finding determination.

8. **Authority.** The committee only has authority to make factual determinations related to a PSA's amateurism certification, per the policies and procedures set forth herein. Accordingly, it may not interpret legislation, determine whether a violation occurred, issue or waive amateurism certification conditions, certify the PSA's amateur status or amend the PSA's review summary outside the scope of the fact-finding request.

9. **Fact-Finding Requests.**

- a. **Precluded.** By requesting an interpretation (or seeking a joint interpretation), submitting a legislative relief waiver or seeking student-athlete reinstatement, the institution acknowledges agreement with the facts in the review summary and is precluded from submitting a fact-finding request. In addition, a PSA's expected date of high school graduation (determined by the Eligibility Center), the expense methodology used to evaluate compensation, relevance, editorial revisions, additional facts, context and/or mitigation may not be the subject of a fact-finding request.
- b. **Permitted.** An institution may request fact finding if it disagrees with the accuracy of one or more facts specified in the PSA's posted amateurism review summary (one fact-finding request may be submitted per posted review summary). Staff may request a factual determination if there is conflicting documentation regarding an essential fact that would preclude a final amateurism certification from being issued.
- c. **Timing.** The institution has 30 calendar days after a review summary has been posted to the PSA's Eligibility Center account to provide written notice of its intent to seek a factual determination. A fact-finding request submitted after 30 calendar days must include a letter of explanation, and the chair has discretion to determine whether the request will be heard. If the chair has a conflict of interest or is unavailable, the vice chair (or the remaining committee members by majority vote if the vice chair has a conflict of interest or is unavailable) shall determine whether to hear such a request.

Staff may request a factual determination at any time if conflicting documentation regarding an essential fact precludes a final amateurism certification from being issued.

- d. **Written Notice – Intent to Seek Factual Determination.** The institution may initiate a fact-finding request by providing written notice to the committee's staff liaison. Such notice must identify the specific fact(s) at issue in the posted review summary (one fact-finding request may be submitted per posted review summary).

Staff may initiate a fact-finding request by providing written notice to the institution's primary or secondary contact for the PSA's amateurism certification. Such notice must specify the conflicting documentation and the essential fact(s) at issue.

- e. **Request Form.** After written notice has been provided, staff will complete the Amateurism Fact-Finding Request Form and send it to the institution, which must provide required signatures (athletics director, senior compliance administrator and PSA) on the Form and

submit written statements from the institution and the PSA. The institution may also submit information and/or documentation that has been provided to the Eligibility Center as part of the PSA's amateurism certification. If new information and/or documentation is submitted, the fact-finding process is tabled, and the information and/or documentation will be reviewed in accordance with the amateurism certification policies and procedures.

The Amateurism Fact-Finding Request Form must also specify whether the institution and PSA elect to participate on the fact-finding videoconference. If so, each must identify one representative who may present to the committee (the institution's representative must be an institutional employee or a non-staff representative retained by the institution).

- f. **Scheduling.** After the committee's staff liaison has received a complete Amateurism Fact-Finding Request Form, the materials will be posted on a secure website. The applicable fact-finding committee for the division will review the request during its next regularly scheduled videoconference, as follows:

Committee	Videoconference	Submission Deadline (EST)
Division I Preenrollment Amateurism Certification Committee	Thursday (Biweekly)	Prior Thursday (3 p.m.)
Division II Legislation Committee Legislative Review Subcommittee	Tuesday (Monthly)	Prior Tuesday (3 p.m.)
Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee Subcommittee for Amateurism Fact-Finding	Thursday (Biweekly)	Prior Thursday (3 p.m.)

## 10. Fact-Finding Videoconferences.

- a. **Participants.** Attendance will be limited to the PSA, the PSA's designated representative (if applicable), an individual from the institution's compliance office, the institution's representative (if applicable), committee members and NCAA staff.
- b. **Conflicts/Quorum.** At the beginning of the videoconference, the committee chair must identify any conflicts of interest and ensure minimum quorum requirements (over half of voting committee members) are met. The committee's staff liaison will permit the institution, PSA and representatives to join the videoconference once the committee chair has called the institution's fact-finding request.
- c. **Presentations/Questions.** The committee chair provides 10 minutes for the staff to present to the committee, followed by 10 minutes for the institution and/or PSA's designated representatives to present to the committee (such representatives may allocate the 10 minutes between them). The committee chair may end a presentation or the videoconference at any time if new information and/or documentation is presented.

After presentations, the committee may ask questions to the designated representatives and/or the PSA. When the committee has obtained all information necessary for deliberation, the committee chair will direct all participants except the committee's staff liaison to depart from the videoconference.

- d. **Deliberation.** The committee chair will lead the deliberation, during which the staff liaison may answer procedural questions. The committee may not consider or discuss any information or documentation outside of the posted materials and the information presented on the videoconference. Also, it may not consider or discuss potential interpretations or outcomes (e.g., violations, penalties) based on its factual determination(s).

The committee may decline to proceed with a vote if it believes missing information or documentation is essential and should reasonably be provided.

- e. **Decision.** Factual requests are decided by majority vote of all committee members present and voting. Committee voting is private (specific votes and vote counts will not be shared).
- f. **Communication/Certification.** After the committee renders a decision, staff provides the decision to the institution as soon as reasonably possible. The committee's factual determination shall be used, along with all other facts in the review summary, as the basis for completing the PSA's amateurism certification.

- 11. **Reconsiderations.** The institution may request reconsideration after the committee's fact-finding determination (via the Decision Inquiry Process) based on new relevant information (supported by contemporaneous documentation) that was not reasonably available to any involved individual at the time of the previous fact-finding determination (threshold). The reconsideration request must include a decision inquiry form (obtained via the committee's staff liaison), a statement on letterhead that explains why the institution believes the information meets the threshold and supporting documentation.

Staff has discretion to determine whether the institution's reconsideration request meets the threshold and may consult the committee chair as part of its review. If the request meets the threshold, staff will validate the new information, review any facts that may be affected and reevaluate the certification. If the review summary is updated, the institution has 30 calendar days (after it has been reposted) to request fact finding regarding the updated facts in the review summary.

- 12. **Appeals.** The Division I Preenrollment Amateurism Certification Committee's factual determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by any other authority (Division I Bylaw 21.10.6.6.4.3).

The Division II Legislative Review Subcommittee's factual determination may be appealed to the Division II Management Council Subcommittee.



The Division III Subcommittee for Amateurism Fact-Finding's factual determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by any other authority.

- 13. Conflict of Interest.** The NCAA is a voluntary Association comprised of colleges, universities, conferences and other organizations, and governed through a membership-led committee structure. Within the governance structure, committee members must carefully balance their responsibilities to their respective institutions and/or conferences with the obligation to advance the interests of the Association, the division or the sport, and ultimately enhance the student-athlete experience. While the fiduciary obligations of committee members to their own institution, their conference and to the Association ordinarily are not in conflict, it is recognized that as a representative membership organization, committee members' fiduciary obligations are first to their institution, second to their conference and third to the Association. NCAA committee service involves important ethical and moral obligations. Committee integrity is critical to the decision-making process and includes trust, confidentiality and honesty in all issues and aspects of service and representation. NCAA committee members shall disclose any conflict or potential conflict between their respective personal, professional, institutional, conference or business interests and the interests of the Association that may affect or otherwise threaten such integrity, in any and all actions taken by them on behalf of the Association, for committee evaluation under this statement. When considering disclosures, keep in mind those may result in an "excess benefit transaction" under Section 4958 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or other tax or other laws that may apply.

In addition to any fiduciary obligation to their institution and conference, committee members also have a fiduciary duty to the Association not to use knowledge or information obtained solely due to service on that committee to the disadvantage of the Association during the term of committee service. Further, a committee member shall not participate in the committee's discussion or vote on any action that might bring direct or indirect personal financial benefit to the member or any organization (other than the member's institution or conference) in which the member is financially interested. A committee member should also not participate in a discussion or vote for which the member's institution or conference is to be accorded a special benefit beyond benefits shared with other institutions or conferences or is to receive a penalty or disqualification. A violation of either of the above rules by a member of the committee shall not invalidate the action taken by the committee if, following disclosure of the conflict of interest, the committee authorizes, ratifies or approves the action by a vote sufficient for the purpose, without counting the vote of the committee member with the conflict of interest, and the appropriate oversight body approves the action.

A committee member is responsible for advising the chair of any actual or potential conflicts of interest or obligations which he/she may have hereunder and should recuse him/herself from participating in proceedings, as may be warranted by this policy. Abuse of one's position as a member of a committee may result in dismissal from that position. Where such abuse appears evident, a committee member will be notified by the committee chair and will have the opportunity to present a rebuttal or details of the situation.

- 14. Confidentiality.** Committee members may not communicate any information regarding a specific fact-finding request to anyone other than NCAA staff or other committee members. This includes, but is not limited to, communication with institutional staff members or non-staff representatives. Also, fact-finding videoconferences may not be recorded.

Staff must maintain confidentiality in all fact-finding requests. However, if the institution, PSA or an involved individual comments publicly, staff may confirm such information and/or address erroneous or incomplete information.

Any information and/or documentation submitted as part of a fact-finding request may be shared with other national office staff members (e.g., enforcement).

- 15. Speaking Agent.** The president of the Association and the chair of the NCAA Board of Governors are the only individuals authorized to speak on behalf of the Association except as outlined below. An individual representing a member institution or conference who speaks or opines on an Association issue only has the authority to express the view of that individual or the member institution or conference unless the individual has been designated by the Board of Governors of the Association as a speaking agent of the Association on that issue. Committee chairs are hereby designated as speaking agents of their committees regarding issues within their committees' jurisdiction on which there is consensus, except that positions of advocacy on behalf of the committee or the Association to be communicated in writing or orally to persons or entities external to the Association must have prior approval by the Board of Governors or the president of the Association. The president of the Association is hereby granted authority to designate additional speaking agents of the Association.

## A. Equivalency Per Sport – Men

Sport	Equivalency -Median	Bylaw 15 Equivalent Limit
Baseball	6	9
Basketball	8	10
Cross Country/Track and Field*	4	12.6
Fencing	3	4.5
Football	26	36
Golf	2	3.6
Gymnastics	0	5.4
Ice hockey	16	13.5
Lacrosse	6	10.8
Rifle	0	3.6
Skiing	3	6.3
Soccer	6	9
Swimming and Diving	3	8.1
Tennis	3	4.5
Volleyball	3	4.5
Water Polo	3	4.5
Wrestling	5	9

\*Financial Reporting System reports cross country as cross country and track and field.

## B. Equivalency Per Sport – Women

Sport	Equivalency -Median	Bylaw 15 Equivalent Limit
Acrobat and Tumbling	2	9
Basketball	8	10
Beach Volleyball	2	5
Bowling	1	5
Cross Country/Track and Field*	4	12.6
Equestrian	1	15
Fencing	2	4.5
Field Hockey	4	6.3
Golf	2	5.4
Gymnastics	4	6
Ice Hockey	8	18
Lacrosse	4	9.9
Rowing	4	20
Rugby	1	12
Skiing	2	6.3
Soccer	6	9.9
Softball	5	7.2
Stunt	1.7	9
Swimming and Diving	3	8.1
Tennis	3	6
Triathlon	1	5
Volleyball	5	8
Water Polo	3	8
Wrestling	2	10

\*Financial Reporting System reports cross country as cross country and track and field.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE RELIEF COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 26, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of the 2025-26 NCAA Eligibility Center streamlined review process and guidelines.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2025-26 Eligibility Center streamlined review process and guidelines.
2. **Future videoconferences.**
  - a. April 2, 2025, videoconference; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Eastern time.
  - b. September/October 2025 videoconference; timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Marcie Haduca Covell, California State University, East Bay  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislative Relief Committee February 26, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Jackie Armstrong, Point Loma Nazarene University.	
Rob Fiedler, University of Tampa.	
Marty Gilbert, Mars Hill University.	
Marcie Haduca Covell, California State University, East Bay.	
Erin Harvey, Wilmington University (Delaware).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Denton and Jordan Lysiak.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Mike DeCesare, Molly Hansen and Angela Red.	

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE RELIEF COMMITTEE  
APRIL 2, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- NCAA Division II Legislative Relief Committee information standards, guidelines and directives.

(1) Recommendation. Approve the updated Legislative Relief Committee information standards, guidelines and directives, as specified. [See Attachment.]

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The Legislative Relief Committee's information standards, guidelines and directives do not account for recent trends in legislative relief waivers and represent guidance that has not been substantially amended in several years. An update to the committee's information standards, guidelines and directives is necessary to best address the needs of student-athletes involved in legislative relief waivers.

Specifically, when considering legislative relief waivers involving NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 (participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment), the committee removed the directive that misinformation or a lack of information provided from institutional personnel shall not, in itself, warrant relief of the legislation. The committee determined that a directive should be established to specify that misinformation provided by a Division II member institution may warrant relief in certain scenarios. Additionally, the committee determined that a directive should be established to provide relief when a student-athlete transfers because the student-athlete's original institution lost its regional accreditation.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. Review of Legislative Relief Committee cases decided from August 1, 2024, through January 31, 2025, by the NCAA staff and committee. The committee reviewed cases

decided by staff and the committee from August 1, 2024, through January 31, 2025. A total of 82 cases were submitted in Division II, with 64 of those cases decided by staff during this time period. Of the 64 cases decided, staff approved 37 cases, 19 of which were approved with conditions. There were five cases approved based on the totality of the circumstances, with the committee affirming staff's decision in all five cases. Additionally, staff denied 21 cases, six of which were appealed to the committee. The committee affirmed the staff decision in four cases and overturned staff's decision in two cases.

2. **Review of the Legislative Relief Committee information standards, guidelines and directives.** The committee discussed and provided feedback on its information standards, guidelines and directives. The committee recommended a change to its information standards, guidelines and directives regarding participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Specifically, the committee took action to remove the directive that misinformation or a lack of information provided from institutional personnel shall not, in itself, warrant relief of the legislation and to establish a new directive to specify that misinformation provided by a Division II member institution may warrant relief in certain scenarios. Additionally, the committee determined that a directive should be established to provide relief when a student-athlete transfers because the student-athlete's original institution lost its regional accreditation [see Nonlegislative Action Item]. Additionally, the committee recommended updates throughout its information standards, guidelines and directives regarding participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment to remove all references to the academic year in residence that a student-athlete must serve if they are charged with the use of a season of competition per the organized competition legislation due to the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. NC-2026-5 (eligibility -- athletics eligibility -- seasons of competition: 10-semester/15-quarter rule -- criteria for determining season of eligibility -- participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment -- elimination of academic year in residence requirement). Further, the committee recommended the addition of a directive for staff to approve legislative relief waivers tied to participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment when a student-athlete experiences a personal hardship (e.g., injury/illness, financial hardship) which leads to the student-athlete's inability to avail themselves of the opportunity to compete during their legislated grace period.

Finally, the committee recommended a change to its information standards, guidelines and directives regarding four-year college transfers. In light of the adoption of Proposal No. EM-2025-1 (eligibility -- academic and general requirements -- transfer regulations -- four-year transfer -- four-year undergraduate transfer student-athletes) which amended the four-year college transfer legislation, the committee determined that holistic changes to its information standards, guidelines and directives were necessary to align with the legislation. Specifically, the committee recommended the elimination of the following sections of the information standards, guidelines and directives: (1) Assertions of Academic and Athletics Reasons; (2) Transfer-Residency Requirement Due to a Division II Student-Athlete Not Providing Written Notification of Transfer by the June 15 Deadline; and (3) Waiver Requests Involving Lack of Support from the Previous Institution. In addition, the committee recommended broadening the personal hardship and egregious behavior

guidelines to incorporate circumstances related to athletics reasons for transfer and education-impacting disabilities.

The committee will review an updated draft of its information standards, guidelines and directives during a future meeting to take formal action.

3. **Review of the Legislative Relief Committee's policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved an updated version of its policies and procedures.
4. **Approval of the Legislative Relief Committee's October 2, 2024, videoconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved its October 2, 2024, videoconference report, as written.
5. **Update from the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors' most recent meeting.
6. **Review of proposals adopted at the 2025 NCAA Convention.** Staff provided an update regarding legislation adopted at the 2025 NCAA Convention.
7. **Review of the fall 2024 and winter 2025 NCAA Division II Executive Board and NCAA Division II Management Council summary of actions.** The committee received an update on the summary of actions from the fall 2024 and winter 2025 meetings of the Executive Board and Management Council.
8. **Future scheduled videoconferences.**
  - a. September/October 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - b. March 2026, videoconference; timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Marcie Haduca Covell, California State University, East Bay  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislative Relief Committee April 2, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Jackie Armstrong, Point Loma Nazarene University.	
Rob Fiedler, University of Tampa.	
Marty Gilbert, Mars Hill University.	
Marcie Haduca Covell, California State University, East Bay.	
Erin Harvey, Wilmington University (Delaware).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	



Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Rachel Denton and Jordan Lysiak.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones, Morgan Melchert, Angela Red and Megan Villanueva.

**NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE RELIEF COMMITTEE  
INFORMATION STANDARDS, GUIDELINES AND DIRECTIVES  
(Updated April 2025)**

The NCAA Division II Legislative Relief Committee, formerly the NCAA Division II Management Council Administrative Review Subcommittee and the Committee for Legislative Relief, was created in 1993 as a response to the NCAA membership's desire for more rules flexibility. This group was originally established as a subcommittee of the NCAA Division II Management Council to review the application of legislation in cases where the circumstances are extraordinary in nature (NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.4.1.7). In January 2008, the Division II Management Council and the NCAA Division II Presidents Council, now named the Division II Executive Board, agreed to establish a free-standing committee to fulfill this role. The equivalent waiver committees in Divisions I and III are the NCAA Division I Legislative Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief, formerly the NCAA Division I Management Council Administrative Review Subcommittee and the NCAA Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief, formerly the NCAA Division III Management Council Administrative Review Subcommittee.

**Bylaw 13.**

**Institution Providing Transportation to Institution's Campus for Prospective Student-Athlete to Enroll.**

- Directive for Requests Involving Institutions Providing Transportation to Enroll (NCAA Division II Bylaw 13.2.3.2). During its March 2024 videoconference, the committee reviewed circumstances that involved prospective student-athletes receiving transportation expenses to enroll at an institution. The committee reviewed the common circumstances submitted for such waiver requests and instructed staff to continue reviewing such requests on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the committee noted relief of the transportation to enroll legislation should be considered under the following circumstances:
  - Prospective student-athlete has been admitted to the institution;
  - Prospective student-athlete has signed a written commitment to attend the institution (e.g., signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid agreement or submitted a financial deposit in response to the institution's offer of admission); and
  - Prospective student-athlete has provided objective documentation to demonstrate they do not have the financial means to purchase transportation to enroll at the institution or the institution has demonstrated that the prospective student-athlete has incurred a financial hardship due to institutional error.

**Bylaw 14.**

**Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment [NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2] – Information Standards and Guidelines.**

Effective August 1, 2010, and thereafter (for individuals who are issued a final amateurism certification by the NCAA Eligibility Center on or after April 1, 2010), the following guidelines shall

be used by the NCAA staff and the Legislative Relief Committee (hereinafter referred to as committee) when considering an institution's request to grant relief of the application of Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 (participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment).

These guidelines shall apply to all situations when an individual who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following the individual's high school graduation and participates in organized competition involving amateur or professional teams.

The primary analysis for such waiver requests will focus on the circumstances outside of the individual or institution's control (e.g., specific event that necessitated the delay such as the injury, illness or death of a family member) surrounding the individual's delayed collegiate enrollment. Specifically, the staff and committee will evaluate the duration of time that the mitigation impacted the student-athlete's ability to enroll (e.g., chronology of events); what circumstances have changed related to the specific event (e.g., how has situation improved or changed); and whether or not the student-athlete initially enrolled at their first opportunity after the mitigation was remedied.

**1. Analysis for providing full relief for season of competition.**

- a. Participation in Minimal Amount of Competition. The individual's situation should be assessed to determine the number of contests or dates of competition that the individual participated in after October 1 or March 1 immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduate date and prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

If it is determined that the individual has participated in two contests or dates of competition, or 30 percent or less than the contest or dates of competition limits set forth in Bylaw 17 in the individual's sport during each calendar year of participation, full relief for the season of competition may be granted. See the 30-percent calculation page included in this document for contests or dates of competition limits set forth in Bylaw 17. This analysis may be applied regardless of the individual's mitigation for delaying collegiate enrollment.

If an individual cannot verify the exact number of contests or dates of competition in a calendar year in which the individual triggered the application of the rule, the staff or committee may not provide relief under this guideline.

Relief shall only be provided if participation in such competition would have been permissible under the NCAA amateurism rules at the time.

- b. Actual or Averaging Method. Staff and the committee may apply the minimal amount of competition guideline to each individual calendar year of an individual's participation during the delay, or to the average of the total number of contests or dates of competition an individual participated in during the entire delay period. Staff and the committee shall use whichever method benefits the individual.

2. **Caliber of Competition.** An institution that asserts relief should be provided based on the caliber of competition (e.g., low level competition, elite level competition) that subjected the individual to the legislation shall not, in itself, warrant relief.
3. **Early High School Graduation.** An individual who graduates one or more years early from high school, based on the expected date of graduation for the individual's high school class, shall be subject to the use of a season of competition and serve a year in residence if the individual delays collegiate enrollment and participates in an activity or activities that trigger the application of the rule. Waivers involving assertions that relief should be provided based on an individual graduating earlier than expected from high school shall not, in itself, warrant relief.
4. **Assertions Involving Diversion from Country's Normal Academic Path to High School Graduation.**
  - Guidelines for Assertions of Diversion from Country's Normal Academic Path. If an institution asserts that an individual diverted from their country's normal academic path to high school graduation, staff and the committee shall review the individual's home educational system and analyze the circumstances that caused the individual to divert from their country's normal academic path to high school graduation. Such requests shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
5. **Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 (exception to the academic year in residence requirement for transfer student-athletes) and Assertions of Misinformation, Lack of Information and Institutional Error.**
  - Guidelines Involving Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 (exception to the academic year-in-residence requirement for transfer student-athletes) and Assertions of Misinformation, Lack of Information and Institutional Error.

Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 provides an exception to the academic year-in-residence requirement for a two-year or four-year college transfer student-athlete who is subject to the organized competition prior to enrollment legislation provided the student-athlete satisfies specific academic provisions. If an institution provides misinformation, a lack of information, or commits an error when certifying the eligibility of a transfer student-athlete who is subject to the organized competition prior to enrollment legislation, the request will be analyzed using the committee's October 1999 guidelines for transfer waiver requests:

    - In cases in which a student-athlete is provided academic information without consideration of athletics, when provided from an appropriate academic source and the student-athlete could have otherwise been eligible, relief should be provided.
    - In cases in which the student-athlete relied in good faith on the academic misinformation and, had correct information been provided, it was determined that the student-athlete could have met the necessary transfer requirements,

but for the misinformation, the student-athlete could have been eligible, relief should be provided.

- In cases in which the misinformation provided by the previous four-year institution led to the student-athlete being ineligible and applicant institution can document that the student-athlete would have been eligible had the student-athlete attended applicant institution directly, relief should be provided (e.g., 2-4-4 transfer).
- In situations involving misinformation, if the student-athlete is not eligible at any Division II institution, regardless of the misinformation received, the request should be denied provided the request for relief is based solely on the misinformation.
- In situations in which a student-athlete is initially misinformed about their eligibility status (e.g., informed they will be eligible) but is properly informed that they are not eligible prior to the student-athlete triggering transfer status to the certifying institution, the request should be denied provided the request for relief is based solely on the misinformation.
- The committee noted that in cases where the misinformation cannot be documented and absent other extenuating circumstances, relief should be denied.

## **6. Assertions Involving All Other Extenuating Circumstances.**

- a. Guidelines for Assertions Involving Extenuating Circumstances Beyond Control of Individual. Staff and the committee may grant full or partial relief for the season of competition and/or the academic year in residence when an institution asserts extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the individual that are supported by objective documentation. In reaching a decision, the committee shall review the intent of Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 and the complete record (totality of circumstances) to determine if there is a sufficient basis to grant relief.

The following extenuating circumstances that are considered to be beyond the control of an individual that **may** warrant relief of the legislation, include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Medical hardships. Situations clearly supported by contemporaneous medical documentation that establish the individual delayed collegiate enrollment as a result of an incapacitating physical injury or illness involving the individual or a member of the individual's immediate family;
- (2) Natural disasters. For example: earthquakes, floods;
- (3) War. Situations where a war is occurring in the locale of the individual's residence;

- (4) Extreme financial difficulties. An institution that asserts that extreme financial difficulties as a result of a specific event (e.g., layoff, death in the family) experienced by the student-athlete, or by an individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent, which resulted in a delay in collegiate enrollment after high school graduation shall provide objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination). Such an event shall be beyond the control of the individual, or the person on whom the individual is legally dependent.
  - (5) Misinformation provided from Division II member institution personnel. An institution that asserts relief should be provided because of misinformation or lack of information that was provided from Division II member institution personnel to the prospective student-athlete during the recruitment process (except for waivers involving Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1).
- b. Guidelines Involving Extenuating Circumstances Within Control of Individual. The following extenuating circumstances that are considered to be within the control of an individual, **shall not**, in itself, warrant relief of the legislation, include, but are not limited to:
- (1) Lack of knowledge regarding the legislation. An institution that asserts relief should be provided because institutional personnel or the individual had a lack of knowledge regarding the legislation shall not, in itself, warrant relief. This guideline applies to recruited and nonrecruited student-athletes. The committee noted the legislation requires institutions to notify recruited prospective student-athletes of the organized competition rule at the earliest practical opportunity after recruitment begins, but not later than the day prior to the prospective student-athlete's signed acceptance of the national letter of intent or institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid (Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.3);
  - (2) Failure to enroll in college due to academic deficiencies, disciplinary reasons or incarceration. An institution that asserts relief should be provided because of an individual's inability to initially enroll in a collegiate institution after high school graduation for failure to meet academic requirements, disciplinary reasons or incarceration culminating in or resulting from a conviction; and

These guidelines are intended to provide guidance to the staff and the committee, with the understanding that both entities may use discretion in the application of these guidelines. Further, exceptions to these guidelines may be applied by the staff and the committee when warranted by the totality of the circumstances of a specific case.

**NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 – 30% Calculation of Contests and Dates of Competition (See Figure 17-1 in the NCAA Manual for Maximum Numbers of Contests and Dates of Competition for Each Sport).**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Contests*</b>	<b>Dates of Competition*</b>
Acrobatics and Tumbling		4
Baseball	15	
Basketball	8	
Beach Volleyball		5
Bowling, Women's		10
Cross Country		3
Equestrian		5
Fencing		4
Field Hockey	6	
Football	4	
Golf		7
Gymnastics		4
Ice Hockey, Men's	10	
Ice Hockey, Women's	11	
Lacrosse		6
Rifle		4
Rowing, Women's		6
Rugby, Women's		5
Skiing		10 (Alpine) 10 (Nordic)
Soccer	6	
Softball	17	
Stunt		5
Swimming and Diving		5
Tennis		8
Track and Field (Indoor and Outdoor)		6
Triathlon, Women's		2
Volleyball, Men's		9
Volleyball, Women's		8
Water Polo		7
Wrestling, Men's		5
Wrestling, Women's		5

\* When calculating the maximum number of contests and dates of competition for purposes of these guidelines, the totals have been rounded up to the next whole number.

## **Transfer Regulations Legislation [Bylaw 14.3] – Information Standards, Guidelines and Directives.**

In May 2020, the committee granted the NCAA staff authority to exercise discretion and sensitivity in evaluating cases involving a student-athlete transferring to a Division II institution due to the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically when the prescribed outcome of the guidelines or case precedent impact the health or safety of the student-athlete.

### **1. Assertions of Personal Hardship.**

- a. Guidelines for Assertions of Personal Hardship. During its October 2023 videoconference, the committee discussed the relief that should be provided for waivers in instances which an institution asserts that personal hardship of the student-athlete, or the student-athlete's relative or legal guardian, necessitated the student-athlete's transfer to the certifying institution. The committee noted that areas of personal hardship to be considered include, but are not limited to, injury/illness or financial hardship.

The committee approved the following guidelines regarding assertions of personal hardship to the student-athlete:

- (1) If the institution is unable to provide objective documentation to substantiate the specific cause, and/or specific event which caused, personal hardship, the case should be denied.
  - (2) If the institution does provide objective documentation to substantiate that the personal hardship necessitated the student-athlete's transfer to the certifying institution, the case may be granted.
  - (3) If the institution provides documentation substantiating an instance of personal hardship but the personal hardship does not relate to the necessity to transfer, the case should be denied.
- b. During its March 2023 videoconference, the committee reviewed case precedent submitted for student-athletes that involved assertions related to personal hardship to the student-athlete or the student-athlete's relative or legal guardian as the primary basis for relief. The committee reviewed the common circumstances submitted for such waiver requests and instructed the staff to continue reviewing such requests on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the committee noted relief of the transfer year-in-residence legislation should be considered when the following circumstances are appropriately documented:
  - (1) Nature of personal hardship. Staff should consider relief of the legislation for circumstances involving an objectively documented instance of personal hardship (e.g., debilitating injury or illness, bankruptcy, layoff, reduction or cancellation of athletics aid) to a student-athlete or a student-athlete's relative or legal guardian creating dependency on the student-athlete;



- (2) Student-athlete's responsibilities related to care or financial assistance. Staff should consider relief of the legislation when the student-athlete can demonstrate they are providing ongoing responsibilities related to care-giving or financial assistance to their relative(s) or legal guardian(s);
  - (3) Distance from the student-athlete's support system. Staff should consider relief of the legislation when the student-athlete transfers to an institution within a 100-mile radius from the student-athlete's home or support system due to the personal hardship. Additionally, staff may consider other relevant factors regarding the distance from the certifying institution to the student-athlete's support system (e.g., student-athlete transferred to the closest institution that would provide an opportunity to participate); and
  - (4) Chronology of events. Staff should consider relief of the legislation when the chronology of events supports the necessity for the student-athlete to transfer. The student-athlete must transfer within or immediately after the academic year once becoming aware of the personal hardship.
- c. Information Standards for Assertions of Personal Hardship. The committee adopted the following standards for situations in which a waiver of the legislation is requested, and the mitigation provided by the institution involves a personal hardship:
- (1) A letter from the student-athlete explaining the need for relief of the legislation;
  - (2) The institution must submit objective, contemporaneous documentation related to the personal hardship. Where appropriate, the documentation must include a statement from a treating professional;
  - (3) The institution must demonstrate that the personal hardship has a direct link to warranting relief of the legislation;
  - (4) Detailed chronology of events related to the personal hardship. For example (this is not an exhaustive list):
    - (a) Date of hardship onset.
    - (b) Date student-athlete became aware of the hardship.
    - (c) Date student-athlete initiated transfer process from original institution (e.g., provided written notification of transfer).
    - (d) What circumstances, if any, have changed related to the personal hardship?
  - (5) Actions, if any, the student-athlete took to remain at the original institution;
  - (6) Student-athlete's responsibilities, if any, related to providing support for their family;

- (7) A written statement from the previous institution detailing the reason(s) why the student-athlete indicated they are transferring from the previous institution;
- (8) Other factors influencing the student-athlete's decision to transfer (e.g., playing time, coaching change); and
- (9) Where appropriate, a statement from the certifying institution's director of athletics and the head coach confirming the student-athlete will be permitted to depart from the team at any time to fulfill their responsibilities related to care-giving or financial assistance for the impacted relative(s) or legal guardian(s) and ensuring the coaching staff is supportive of the student-athlete's departure from the team.

## **2. Assertions of Egregious Behavior.**

During its September 29, 2021, teleconference, the committee discussed the relief that may be provided for waivers involving Bylaw 14.3.5 (transfer regulations) in which an institution asserts that the student-athlete was a victim of egregious behavior by a student-athlete or staff member(s) while enrolled at the previous institution.

- a. Information Standards for Assertions of Egregious Behavior. The committee adopted the following information standards for transfers asserting egregious behavior:
  - (1) Objective documentation of the egregious behavior that directly impacted the health, safety or well-being of the student-athlete.
  - (2) A written statement from the previous institution's director of athletics, or their designee, detailing the reason(s) why the student-athlete indicated they are transferring from the previous institution.
  - (3) A written statement from the applicant institution indicating that the student-athlete is in good academic standing and meets all progress-toward-degree requirements at applicant institution.
- b. Guidelines for Assertions of Egregious Behavior. The committee approved the following guidelines regarding assertions of egregious behavior.
  - (1) In cases where the student-athlete was a victim of objective, documented egregious behavior (e.g., physical assault or abuse, sexually inappropriate behavior, racial abuse, religious discrimination, questioning of sexuality) by a student or staff member at the previous institution, staff may grant immediate eligibility.
  - (2) The definition of egregious behavior is not limited to the examples above, and staff should use appropriate discretion in the analysis of the facts.

- (3) In cases where the applicant cannot document that the student-athlete was a victim of egregious behavior by a student or staff member at the previous institution, staff should review on a case-by-case basis.

### **3. Assertions of Academic and Athletics Reasons.**

- a. Guidelines for Assertions of Academic and Athletics Reasons. During its March 2023 meeting, the committee reviewed case precedent and affirmed the continued application of the October 2000 academic and athletics guidelines regarding transfer waiver requests. The committee specifically noted that staff should continue to deny requests for transfers due to athletics reasons (e.g., a coaching change, lack of playing time) absent any other mitigation.
- b. Directive for Assertions of Reasons Unrelated to Athletics. During its March 2021 videoconference, the committee reviewed case precedent that involved four-year college student-athletes transferring for reasons unrelated to athletics. The committee reviewed the common circumstances submitted for such waiver requests and instructed staff to continue reviewing such requests on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the committee noted relief of the transfer year-in-residence legislation should be considered under the following circumstances:
  - (1) Student-athlete transferred for reasons unrelated to athletics; and
  - (2) Applicant institution provides written documentation from the previous institution confirming the nature of the contact or communication, if any, between the student-athlete and previous institution's athletics department.
- c. Directive for Assertions of Academic Reasons. During its March 2023 videoconference, the committee discussed cases that involved four-year college student-athletes transferring for reasons related to academics. The committee noted relief of the transfer year-in-residence legislation should be considered under the following asserted academic reasons:
  - (1) Student-athlete transfers because the degree program does not meet their academic expectations.
  - (2) The institution or the student-athlete is able to provide documentation supporting the transfer for academic reasons.
  - (3) The student-athlete transferred for academic reasons on more than one occasion and applicant institution is able to provide documentation to confirm that the student-athlete is on track to graduate from applicant institution.
  - (4) The student-athlete transferred to change majors.

### **4. Transfer-Residency Requirement Due to a Division II Student-Athlete Not Providing Written Notification of Transfer by the June 15 deadline.**

During its March 2023, videoconference, the committee discussed the relief that may be provided for waivers involving Bylaw 14.3.5 (transfer regulations) in which a student-athlete does not provide their previous Division II institution with written notification of transfer by June 15.

- Directive for Requests Involving Division II Student-Athletes that Provide Written Notification of Transfer After June 15.
  - In March 2023, the committee reaffirmed its October 2022 guidance to NCAA staff regarding waiver requests involving student-athletes transferring from a Division II institution to another Division II institution and provide written notification of transfer after June 15. The committee directed staff to approve such waiver requests, provided the student-athlete satisfies the following requirements:
    - This is the student-athlete's first four-year transfer;
    - The student-athlete departed the previous Division II institution in good academic standing and meeting all progress-toward-degree requirements;
    - The head coach at the certifying institution and the student-athlete certify that no contact occurred with the student-athlete, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process; and
    - The previous Division II institution supports the waiver request.

## **5. Waiver Requests Involving Lack of Support from Previous Institution.**

During its March 2023, videoconference, the committee discussed the relief that may be provided for waivers involving Bylaw 14.3.5 (transfer regulations) in which the previous institution does not provide support for the waiver request.

- Directive for Requests Involving a Lack of Support for the Waiver Request from the Previous Institution.
  - The committee specified that when a NCAA or NAIA institution has not provided support for a student-athlete's waiver request for a transfer to a NCAA Division II institution, the staff should review waiver requests on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is sufficient mitigation to provide relief.
  - The committee specified that when the previous institution changes its original position on the waiver request (e.g., initially supported the request and later notifies that they no longer support), the case should be approved.

- The committee confirmed that staff may approve a waiver when the previous institution has not supported the waiver request, but the applicant institution provided sufficient mitigation to show the necessity of the student-athlete's transfer. Additionally, the committee stated that in such instances, an individual from the previous institution's athletics department with oversight on providing the institution's stance on waiver requests is required to provide a written statement indicating the reason provided by the student-athlete for the transfer. If the reason for transfer asserted by the applicant institution is different from the one provided by the previous institution, the same individual from the previous institution must provide a written statement indicating whether their position would change based on the new information.

## **6. Assertions Involving Diagnosed Education-Impacting Disabilities.**

- a. Guidelines for Assertions Involving Diagnosed Education-Impacting Disabilities.  
(NOTE: For academic eligibility purposes, the NCAA defines a disability as a current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and requires accommodation.)

During its October 2000 meeting, the staff provided the committee with an overview of cases processed where an education-impacting disability was included in the request. The staff informed the committee that it has reviewed two main types of cases: (1) the education-impacting disability resulted in the need for relief; and (2) the education-impacting disability is not a direct factor in the request for relief.

- b. Information Standards for Assertions Involving Diagnosed Education-Impacting Disabilities. In its March 2014 meeting, the committee updated the information standards for these types of waivers. The information standards are as follows:
  - (1) The institution must submit current, signed documentation of the diagnosis (including test data) and/or recommendations from the treating professional (e.g., medical doctor, clinical psychologist, another qualified individual). If specific circumstances of the case indicate that this requirement is unnecessary, a prior diagnosis may be acceptable. (NOTE: The staff or committee reserves the right to request a second opinion or diagnosis.)
  - (2) If appropriate, the applicant institution should provide contemporaneous documentation from an individual who is qualified and licensed to diagnose and treat (e.g., psychiatrist, psychologist) the student-athlete with a mental health disorder (e.g., depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder).
  - (3) The institution must submit a written statement from the student-athlete that addresses the impact of the diagnosed disability on the student-athlete's academic performance and its relation to the desired request for relief. If the student-athlete has voluntarily disclosed to the office of disability services, the institution must provide documentation of the specific accommodations

or academic adjustments granted to provide access to the student-athlete. This summary must include accommodations provided by the institution with respect to the student-athlete's disability, as well as academic and other support services provided, and any institutional accommodations related to adjustments of minimum performance requirements. If the institution offers any accommodations with respect to the student-athlete's athletics responsibilities, those should be indicated as well.

- (4) In a transfer situation, the applicant institution should provide documentation demonstrating that the student-athlete with an education-impacting disability needed support services and/or treatment that was unavailable and/or inadequate at the previous institution but available at the applicant institution.

## **7. Competition in Year-of-Transfer Legislation Directive.**

- Directive for Requests Involving Competition in Year-in Transfer (NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.3.5.3).
  - In September 2017, the committee directed the NCAA staff to review waiver requests on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is sufficient mitigation to provide relief. The committee noted the institution must provide documentation demonstrating reasons outside of the student-athlete's control necessitating the transfer as well as extraordinary circumstances warranting relief of the competition in year-of-transfer legislation.
  - The committee directed the staff to deny requests due to athletics reasons (e.g., a coaching change, lack of playing time) or lack of knowledge of the legislation absent any other mitigation.

## **8. Loss of Institutional Accreditation Directive.**

- Directive for Requests Involving Four-Year College Transfers Following the Previous Institution's Loss of Accreditation.
  - In March 2024, the committee directed the NCAA staff to provide relief for a student-athlete who transfers to a member institution to continue the student-athlete's opportunity for full participation in a sport because the student-athlete's original institution lost regional accreditation [or no longer meets the accreditation standard for an international institution] and forfeited immediately its membership in the Association.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 11, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- NCAA Division II 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.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt 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.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Under current Division II legislation, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I championship in any sport for which there is no Division II championship conducted. With the adoption of Division I Proposal No. 2024-51 (championships -- eligibility for championships -- Division I option when no Division II championship is conducted -- men's ice hockey), Division I legislation only provides access to the Division I championship for Division II institutions in men's ice hockey. Aligning the legislation with Division I provides clarity for Division II institutions in understanding the championship opportunities that are available in Division I when there is not a Division II championship conducted in a sport.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of the application of the following institution to enter expedited provisional year one, effective September 1, 2025.** The committee approved the following institution to enter provisional year one of the two-year expedited provisional membership process, effective September 1, 2025:

- Ferrum College.
2. **Preliminary review of the institution that submitted an application for Division II membership in 2025.** The committee received an update regarding the institution that submitted an application for Division II membership by the February 1, 2025, deadline. The following institution was discussed:
- Middle Georgia State University.
- [Note: Christina Whetsel, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Augusta University, recused themselves from this discussion].
3. **Update regarding the progress of institutions in provisional years one, two and three of the membership process.** The committee received updates regarding the institutions in provisional years one, two and three of the membership process. The following institutions were discussed:
- a. Jessup University;
  - b. Menlo College;
  - c. Point Park University;
  - d. Roosevelt University;
  - e. Sul Ross State University;
  - f. Thomas More University;
  - g. University of South Carolina Beaufort; and
  - h. Vanguard University.
4. **Update regarding the progress of institutions in expedited provisional year one of the membership process.** The committee received updates regarding the institutions in expedited provisional year one of the membership process. The following institutions were discussed:
- a. University of California, Merced;
  - b. University of Jamestown; and
  - c. University of Texas at Dallas.



5. **Active member issues.** The committee received an update regarding the merger between Bloomfield College and Montclair State University (Division III), which was executed as of July 1, 2024. Since the committee's November videoconference, NCAA staff received information from the institution outlining the institution's plans to sponsor sports at the Division II and Division III level. Upon its review, the committee requested the following: (1) Documentation from the accrediting agency that outlines Bloomfield College's accreditation status; and (2) That NCAA staff provide a reminder to Bloomfield College regarding the Division II sports sponsorship requirements and the institutional impact should the institution fail to meet the minimum requirements during the 2024-25 academic year.
6. **Update on NCAA Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey submissions.** The committee reviewed NCAA Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey submissions for the 2024-25 academic year. Twelve institutions failed to submit their data prior to the deadline. The committee reviewed 11 waiver requests from institutions that triggered the penalty for failure to submit. The waiver requests from Allen University; Arkansas Tech University; Central State University; Emmanuel University (Georgia); Ferris State University; Fort Valley State University; New Mexico Highlands University; Saint Augustine's University; Savannah State University; Union University and the University of Central Oklahoma were denied due to a lack of mitigating circumstances.

[Note: Kris Dunbar, commissioner, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, recused themselves from the discussion and voting on the waiver request from Ferris State University. Robert Mallory, director of athletics, Missouri Southern State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting on the waiver request from the University of Central Oklahoma. Jessica McIntyre, associate athletics director and senior woman administrator, Lee University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting on the waiver request from Union University. Thomas Newsom, president, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting on the waiver requests from Arkansas Tech University and the University of Central Oklahoma. Christina Whetsel, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Augusta University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting on the waiver requests from Allen University, Central State University and Savannah State University.]

7. **Discussion regarding Division I Proposal No. 2024-51 (championships -- eligibility for championships -- Division I option when no Division II championship is conducted -- men's ice hockey).** The committee discussed Division I Proposal No. 2024-51, which amended the legislation 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. Current Division II legislation allows for a Division II member institution to be eligible to compete in the Division I championship in any sport for which no Division II championship is conducted. Given the recent change in Division I, the committee recommended noncontroversial legislation to align the Division II legislation with the Division I legislation. [See Legislative Action Item.]

8. **Update regarding the Division II to Division I reclassification process.** The committee received an update that the Division I membership adopted Division I Proposal No. 2024-66 (division membership -- change of division membership -- Division II or Division III to Division I), which revised the Division I reclassification process for Division II institutions from four years to three years and established specific entry and exit benchmarks.
9. **2025 NCAA Convention recap.** The committee discussed and provided feedback on the provisional member meeting conducted during the 2025 Convention.
10. **Approval of the November 13, 2024, videoconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved its November 13, 2024, videoconference report.
11. **Update from the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors most recent meeting.
12. **Update from the NCAA Division II Executive Board and NCAA Division II Management Council January 2025 Meetings.** Staff provided an update from the January 2025 meetings of the Executive Board and Management Council.
13. **Future scheduled meetings/videoconferences.**
  - a. April 1, 2025, videoconference; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern time.
  - b. July 8-9, 2025, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
  - c. September 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - d. November 6, 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Christina Whetsel, Augusta University

*Staff Liaisons:* Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs

Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs

Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Membership Committee February 11, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Michael Bazemore, Montana State University Billings.	
Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference.	
Melanie Brunsdon, Winona State University.	
Troy Dell, Frostburg State University.	
Kris Dunbar, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Robert Mallory, Missouri Southern State University.	
Jessica McIntyre, Lee University.	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College.	
Thomas Newsom, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
James Reid, Angelo State University.	
Christie Ward, Catawba College.	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Amy Mallett, The Compliance Group.	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels, Jordan Lysiak and Katelyn Skarr.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Dana Conner, Terri Steeb Gronau, Molly Hansen, Maritza Jones and Angela Red.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
APRIL 1, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Presentation from vendor regarding the progress of institutions in the provisional membership process.** The committee received a vendor presentation regarding the on-campus visits conducted in spring 2025 to institutions in the membership process. The following institutions were discussed:
  - a. Jessup University;
  - b. Menlo College;
  - c. Point Park University;
  - d. Roosevelt University;
  - e. Sul Ross State University;
  - f. Thomas More University;
  - g. University of California, Merced;
  - h. University of Jamestown;
  - i. University of South Carolina, Beaufort;
  - j. University of Texas at Dallas; and
  - k. Vanguard University.

[NOTE: Melanie Brunson, senior woman administrator, Winona State University, recused themselves from the discussion regarding the University of Jamestown; Troy Dell, director of athletics, Frostburg State University, recused themselves from the discussion regarding Point Park University; Kris Dunbar, commissioner, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, recused themselves from the discussion regarding Roosevelt University; Cindy McKnight, director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Ursuline College, recused themselves from the discussion regarding Thomas More University; James Reid, director of athletics, Angelo State University, recused themselves from the discussion regarding Sul Ross State University and the University of Texas at Dallas; and Christina Whetsel, associate athletics director for compliance and administration/senior woman administrator, Augusta

University, recused themselves from the discussion regarding the University of South Carolina, Beaufort.]

2. **Update on the requirements for the provisional membership process regarding Menlo College.** The committee received an update regarding Menlo College's attendance at the Division II business session during the 2025 NCAA Convention.
3. **Review of proposals from vendors.** The committee reviewed and discussed proposals submitted by various vendors for each program listed below. The committee also selected a vendor for each program.
  - a. Post-application site visits; and
  - b. Compliance Blueprint Program.
4. **Active member issues.** The committee received an update regarding the merger between Bloomfield College and Montclair State University (Division III), which was executed as of July 1, 2024. Since the committee's February videoconference, NCAA staff received clarification from the institution regarding its accreditation status and Bloomfield College's plan related to Division II sports sponsorship requirements. Upon its review, the committee requested that NCAA staff provide an additional reminder to Bloomfield College regarding the Division II sports sponsorship requirements and the institutional impact should the institution fail to meet the minimum requirements during the 2024-25 academic year.

Additionally, the committee received an update that the proposed merger between the University of Findlay and Bluffton University (Division III) is no longer being pursued at this time.

Further, the committee received an update on the acquisition of Post University by the Universidad Andres Bello (UNAB), which was finalized in December 2024. Upon its review, the committee affirmed that while the ownership of Post University has changed, both institutions are recognized and operating as an independent, stand-alone institution. Therefore, Post University will remain an active member of Division II following the acquisition with access to the full benefits of NCAA Division II membership that are provided to for-profit institutions.

Finally, the committee received an update on the ongoing accreditation issues involving Saint Augustine's University. Staff will continue to monitor this issue and will update the committee when a final outcome has been reached.

5. **Update regarding institution seeking reclassification from Division II to Division III.** The committee received an update regarding Azuza Pacific University's intention to submit an application for reclassification to Division III by the February 2026 deadline.

6. **Update regarding the 2024-25 Sports Sponsorship and Demographic Form.** The committee 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 is working internally to add the data collection to future iterations of the SSD Form.
7. **Approval of the Membership Committee February 11, 2025, videoconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its February 11, 2025, videoconference.
8. **Future meetings/videoconferences dates.**
  - a. July 8-9, 2025, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
  - b. September 2025, videoconference; date and timing to be determined.
  - c. November 6, 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - d. February 2026, videoconference; date and timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Christina Whetsel, Augusta University

*Staff Liaisons:* Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs

Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs

Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Membership Committee April 1, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Michael Bazemore, Montana State University Billings.	
Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference.	
Melanie Brunsdon, Winona State University.	
Troy Dell, Frostburg State University.	
Kris Dunbar, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Robert Mallory, Missouri Southern State University.	
Jessica McIntyre, Lee University.	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College.	
Thomas Newsom, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
James Reid, Angelo State University.	
Christie Ward, Catawba College.	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University.	

<b>Absentees:</b>
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Jill Willson, Double L Consulting.
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Jeremy Christoffels, Jordan Lysiak and Katelyn Skarr.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Molly Hansen, Maritza Jones and Angela Red.

EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 11-12, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative Items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative Items.**

**b. NCAA Division II Championships Committee (two September vacancies).**

- (1) Recommendation. Appoint **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.
- (2) Effective Date. September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Ms. Gasner has five years of coaching experience at the Division II level and has worked in compliance for 13+ years. Ms. McNeal has worked in athletics administration for 10 years and has extensive committee and regional advisory committee experience. Their experience will add great value to the committee, as well as gender diversity.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**c. NCAA Division II Legislation Committee (two vacancies, one immediate replacing Dawn Makofski and one September).**

- (1) Recommendation. Appoint **Jen Mercurio**, deputy athletics director, Florida Institute of Technology, Sunshine State Conference (immediate); and **Laura Dahlby Nicolai**, associate commissioner, Great Northwest Athletic Conference (September).
- (2) Effective Date. One immediate; and one September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Ms. Mercurio has 17 years of Division II compliance experience. Ms. Dahlby Nicolai represents the Collegiate Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators. Both have served on several regional advisory and sport committees.



(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**d. NCAA Division II Nominating Committee (one September vacancy).**

(1) Recommendation. Appoint **Scott Larson**, vice president for athletics, University of Texas Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.

(2) Effective Date. September 1, 2025.

(3) Rationale. Mr. Larson has 25 years' experience in intercollegiate athletics, with 13 years in Division II. He is a seasoned athletics director with extensive committee and working group experience.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Reports of Previous Meeting.** The committee approved the reports from its December 10 videoconference and its December 12, 2024, electronic action.
2. **Association-wide committee nominee review.** The committee reviewed the nominees for the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. The committee identified its preferred candidates and will forward those to be reviewed by the chairs of all three divisional nominating committees.
3. **Association-wide committee nominee review.** The committee reviewed the nominees for the NCAA Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging. The committee identified its preferred candidates and will forward those to be reviewed by the chairs of all three nominating committees.
4. **Nonlegislated grant selection committee appointment.**
  - **NCAA Division II Coaching Enhancement Grant Selection Committee (one September vacancy).** The Nominating Committee appointed **Kristene Kelly**, director of athletics, Albany State University (Georgia), Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
5. **Additional Nominations.** The committee requested that the following vacancies be reposted to seek additional nominations:
  - a. NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Committee – one September vacancy – appointee must be a coach from the Central region.

- b. NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Committee – one September vacancy – appointee must be from the Midwest region.
- c. NCAA Division II Women's Softball Committee – one September vacancy – appointee must be from the Midwest region.
- d. NCAA Football Rules Committee – one September vacancy – appointee must be a coach from Region 1.
- e. NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee – one Division II September vacancy – appointee must be a coach or administrator.

**6. Future Meetings.**

- **Videoconferences.**

- (1) 2 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, April 8.
- (2) 2 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, June 10.
- (3) 2 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, August 12.

*Committee Chair: Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis*  
*Staff Liaison: Jen Roe, Governance and Policy*  
*Erika Klages, Eligibility Center*

NCAA Division II Nominating Committee February 11-12, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis.	
Bridget Johnson-Tetteh, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference.	
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference.	
Kathy Kroupa, Lynn University.	
Matisse Lee, Claflin University.	
Matthew Pope, Carson-Newman University.	
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University.	
Todd Thurman, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
Cherrie Wilmoth, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
Matt Wilson, Wilmington University (Delaware).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	

<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Erika Klages and Jen Roe.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Lynn Dickey, Corey Jackson and Stephanie Quigg.

**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MARCH 28, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

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

- (1) Recommendation. 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	\$750,000	\$10 increase in per diem from the current \$135 to \$145.
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.

Category	Budget Request	Amount	Description
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 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

Category	Budget Request	Amount	Description
			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.
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.

Category	Budget Request	Amount	Description
TOTAL		\$2,166,389	

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. See the explanations next to each category. Division II's 4.37 percent allocation of new Association revenue for FY26 has not yet been determined by the NCAA finance staff. While this increase is conservative, it illustrates the recommended budget allocation for FY26 until the final amount of the projected increase is communicated. In addition, following the recommended budget requests for FY26, the division would still have at least \$7,133,440 in unallocated new revenue that is being discussed as part of the division's strategic planning process.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$2,166,389.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Many of the recommended allocations directly support an enhanced student-athlete experience.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Strategic Planning and Finance Committee chair Julie Ruppert welcomed the group and previewed the meeting agenda.
- 2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its December 11, 2024, videoconference, as presented.
- 3. **Division II Operating Plan.** The committee continued reviewing the efforts underway to develop the division's next six-year operating/strategic plan that will be launched at the 2026 NCAA Convention. The committee reviewed a revised version that updates language within the strategic priorities.
  - a. **Survey results.** The committee also received an in-depth presentation of preliminary results from the membership survey that was distributed in January and closed in early March. The survey is the final phase of information gathering and membership input before the committee begins drafting initiatives, timelines and funding priorities for the new operating plan.

Committee members discussed key sections of the survey at length (Division II philosophy, athletics operations, athletics healthcare, championships, SAAC, governance, and membership requirements) and noted that while the SPFC is the first to receive this presentation, other Division II governance committees will begin to study results in their relevant areas in the coming weeks.

- b. **Division II long-range budget.** 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.

#### 4. **Division II budget.**

- a. **Division II budget guidelines and principles.** The committee reviewed an updated version of the guidelines and principles that are shared with governance and sport committees to inform decisions with a budget impact.
- b. **Review of budget-to-actuals.** The committee reviewed the Division II budget-to-actuals for the 2024-25 fiscal year through February.

#### 5. **Division II championships budget.** The committee reviewed the report from the Championships Committee's February 24-25 meeting that included four recommendations with a budget impact for the SPFC's consideration. The SPFC approved these recommendations during its review of budget requests for Fiscal Year 2025-26 (see Nonlegislative Action Item above).



6. **Division II budget requests for Fiscal Year 2025-26.** The SPFC reviewed and supported the recommended budget requests for FY26 for the Division II Management Council and Division II Executive Board to formally consider during their April meetings. (See the Nonlegislative Action Item above.) The recommendations must receive final approval by the NCAA Board of Governors at its August 2025 meeting.
7. **Division II revenue distribution.**
  - a. **Policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed the revenue distribution policy.
  - b. **February 2025 supplemental distribution.** Staff updated the committee on the supplemental distribution that the Division II Executive Board approved during its January 2025 meeting (a little more than \$8,000 per institution) and disbursed February 19.
  - c. **April 2025 Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund and Institutional Equal Distribution Fund.** Staff updated the committee on the revenue distributions to schools and conferences that will be disbursed in April.
8. **Other business.**
  - **Committee roster.** The committee acknowledged the outstanding contributions from Division II SAAC representative Alexis Devlin, who was attending her final meeting with the SPFC. A new SAAC representative will join the committee starting with its June meeting.
9. **Future meetings and videoconferences.**
  - a. Monday, June 23, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
  - b. Tuesday, August 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
  - c. Thursday, September 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
  - d. Friday, December 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).

*Committee Chair:* Julie Ruppert, Commissioner, Northeast-10 Conference

*Staff Liaisons:* Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance

Maritza Jones, Division II Governance

Ryan Jones, Division II Governance

Cara Hubert, Administrative Services

Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee March 28, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Joseph Arnold, Clark Atlanta University.	
Peter Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University.	
Alexis Devlin, Catawba College.	
Curtis Janz, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
Brandi Laurita, University of Findlay.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference.	
David Wilmes, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.	
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin.	
Frank Wu, Queens College (New York).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.	
Pennie Parker, Rollins College.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Cara Hubert, Maritza Jones and Ryan Jones.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Karen Kirsch, Mariah Murdock, Angela Red, Jill Waddell and Andrea Worlock.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 13-14, 2025, IN-PERSON MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Preparation for the 2025 NCAA Convention Division II Business Session.** The NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee reviewed its legislative positions for the 2025 Division II business session and voting policies and procedures.

The legislative proposals discussed are listed below. The committee reviewed all aspects of the proposed legislation in preparation for the business session.

- a. **NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-1:** National Collegiate Championships – Women's Wrestling.
- b. **Proposal No. 2025-2:** Recruiting and Playing and Practice Seasons – Tryouts and General Playing-Season Regulations – Mandatory Medical Examinations – Timing of Medical Examination.
- c. **Proposal No. 2025-3:** Eligibility – Academic Eligibility – Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements – Eligibility for Competition – Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year – Elimination of the 18-Semester/27-Quarter Hours Requirement.
- d. **Proposal No. 2025-4:** Eligibility – Transfer Regulations – Two-Year College Transfers – Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid – All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers – Elimination of English, Math and Science Requirement for Qualifiers.
- e. **Proposal No. 2025-5:** Eligibility – Athletics Eligibility – Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule – Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility – Minimum Amount of Competition – Participation During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment.
- f. **Proposal No. 2025-6:** Eligibility – Athletics Eligibility – Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule – Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility – Minimum Amount of Competition – Up to Four Dates of Competition – Men's Wrestling.
- g. **Proposal No. 2025-7:** Playing and Practice Seasons – General Playing-Season Regulations – Required Day Off – Civic Engagement – Exception and Policy Requirement.

- h. Proposal No. 2025-8:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Criteria for Selection of Participants – Automatic Qualification – Football.
- 2. Election of 2025 SAAC Executive Board.** The committee elected Avery Hellmuth (Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference) as chair of SAAC for 2025, Scout Huffman (Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference) as vice chair, re-elected Addison Courtney (Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference) as external communications coordinator and elected Dustyn McKenney (Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference) as the internal operations coordinator.
- 3. Election of 2025 NCAA Division II Executive Board Representatives.** The committee elected Derrick Parker II (Grand Valley State University, at-large representative) and Haley White (Lincoln Memorial University, at-large representative) as the Executive Board representatives for 2025.
- 4. Election of 2025 NCAA Division II Management Council Representatives.** The committee elected Avery Hellmuth (Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference) and Darius Satterfield (Elizabeth City State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) as the Management Council representatives for 2025.
- 5. Election of 2025 NCAA Division II and Association-Wide Committee Representatives.** New representatives were selected to serve on various Division II and Association-wide committees.
  - a.** Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference, will continue to serve on the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.
  - b.** Adorijan Daniels, University of Nebraska at Kearney, at-large representative, will serve on the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.
  - c.** Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference, will serve on the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee and the NCAA Training and Performance Advisory Group.
  - d.** DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills, California Collegiate Athletic Association, will serve on the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.

- e. Grace Hoeppner, Michigan Technological University, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, will serve on the NCAA Concussion Safety Advisory Group. She will join JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference, on the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group.
  - f. Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference, will serve on the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee as part of her vice chair responsibilities. Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, will also serve on the Legislation Committee.
  - g. Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, will serve on the NCAA Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee starting in April after Alexis Devlin, Catawba College, South Atlantic Conference, rolls off the committee.
  - h. Alia Scotka, University of West Florida, Gulf South Conference, will serve on the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics.
  - i. Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University, at-large representative, will join JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference, on the NCAA Division II Championships Committee.
6. **New Appointments.** There are seven new members joining the Division II SAAC: Sean Belzer, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; Connor Fournier, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Zeke Jarzyniecki, Belmont Abbey College, Conference Carolinas; Rita-Marie Masi, Mercy University, East Coast Conference; Rachel McCool, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Rowan Ruggiero, American International College, Northeast-10 Conference; and Lily Ventresca, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
7. **Discussion with NCAA President Charlie Baker.** SAAC members engaged with President Baker regarding the NIL settlement, the ongoing discussions around student-athlete employment and potential impacts on Division II, and the NCAA fan database. The committee also received updates on Baker's outreach initiatives within Division II, including strategies for enhancing the promotion of the division and advocating for stronger student-athlete protections related to sports wagering.
8. **Discussion with NCAA Board of Governors Chair Linda Livingstone.** The committee met with Board of Governors Chair Linda Livingstone. They discussed the NCAA's transgender student-athlete participation policy and the different updates the board receives from national office staff, the board's priorities and efforts to align them with President Baker's goals and the role of student-athletes in leadership on campus.

9. **Discussion with Board of Governors Former Division II Student-Athlete Representative Madeleine McKenna.** The committee met with Board of Governors former Division II student-athlete representative Madeleine McKenna to discuss the NCAA's transgender student-athlete participation policy and the development of a new student-athlete structure to provide feedback to the Board of Governors.
10. **Discussion with NCAA Managing Director of Government Relations Dawn Buth.** The committee met with Dawn Buth, managing director of government relations, to gain insight into the role of the NCAA office of government relations in Washington, D.C. The committee discussed the drafting of a congressional letter to reiterate priorities of Division II student-athletes that will be sent to members of Congress in the coming months.
11. **Discussion with Division II Executive Board Chair Colleen Perry Keith.** The committee met with Executive Board Chair Colleen Perry Keith over lunch to discuss hot topics from the Division II Think Tank, her thoughts on the future of the division, her priorities during her time as chair and the progress the division has made to date.
12. **Discussion with NCAA Chief Medical Officer Deena Casiero.** The committee received updates from Dr. Deena Casiero regarding the NCAA's student-athlete health, safety and performance strategic priorities, including the Mental Health Best Practices, the effect of sports wagering on student-athletes and a recap of previous sports wagering discussions from the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. She also provided an update from the Training and Performance Advisory Group's upcoming Performance Technology in College Athletics Summit, the responsible use of performance measure technology and the importance of protecting student-athletes' privacy.
13. **Discussion with NCAA Director of Legal Affairs Jared Tidemann.** The committee received updates from Jared Tidemann about the name, image and likeness settlement and other current litigation matters in Division I that could affect Division II. The committee also received updates related to current employment cases and the NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy.
14. **Discussion about NCAA Division II Football Date Formula.** The committee discussed the NCAA Division II Football Committee's request for membership feedback on moving the football championship game from the third weekend in December to January. SAAC received a summary of feedback submitted in a survey completed by Division II conference commissioners, head football coaches and athletics directors of football-sponsoring institutions. SAAC requested to receive student-athlete input in a survey and outlined plans to solicit feedback in the spring to aid in its continued discussions.
15. **Discussion on Transgender Student-Athlete Participation.** The committee discussed whether it felt educated enough on transgender student-athletes to have a conversation about their participation in sports. Several committee members acknowledged the lack of information available on transgender student-athletes from reputable sources. It was noted that it is difficult to locate information on the science of transgender participation and the

information that is often readily available is on social media. Given the level of reputable information available and the committee's current knowledge, it decided to hold off on having a conversation at this time.

16. **Discussion on SAAC's Seventh Super Region Convention.** The committee discussed the upcoming seventh SAAC Super Region Convention for schools in the Central and Midwest regions at the Hyatt Regency in Indianapolis from April 25-27. The committee reviewed the agenda and the student-athlete nomination process. Additionally, SAAC explored potential community engagement opportunities for participants at the super region convention. Following the April super region convention, SAAC will host its eighth super region convention for schools in the South Central and West regions at the Grand Hyatt in Denver from November 21-23, 2025.
17. **Discussion on Feedback From State of the Team Exercise.** The committee reviewed and discussed the feedback received from the State of the Team exercise conducted among Division II student-athletes at the November 2024 NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum. The committee noted the concerns that were expressed by Division II student-athlete participants about the communication and information gap between administrators and student-athletes, campus SAAC engagement and some not seeing the importance of community engagement.
18. **Updates on 2024-25 SAAC Goals.** The committee discussed progress made toward its two activation ideas for the 2024-25 academic year as part of the committee's goals. The committee reviewed the execution of its civic engagement efforts surrounding the recent Election Day. The committee also reviewed and finalized each team's internal document to support the work of national SAAC's goals. The committee committed to finalizing an internal document for all Division II and Association-wide committees that include a national SAAC representative by the end of January 2025. Moving forward, the committee determined to review and make any necessary updates to the internal documents after the July and January SAAC meetings. Furthermore, the committee supported adding a policy about the internal documents in its policies and procedures to ensure these documents are accessible in the committee's SharePoint collaboration zone, incorporated into the welcome email for new national SAAC members and provided to the committee when nominations are solicited for leadership positions.
19. **Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award.** The Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award recognizes faculty members at Division II schools for their dedication to supporting and mentoring student-athletes, as well as their commitment to Division II student-athletes' lifelong learning, competition and well-being. The committee recognized Dr. Suzanne Bowser of Catawba College as the 2024 Faculty Mentor Award winner as selected by SAAC's Honors, Awards and Recognition Subcommittee.
20. **2025 Award of Excellence.** The committee reviewed the finalists for the 2025 Division II Award of Excellence as selected by SAAC's Honors, Awards and Recognition Subcommittee. Roberts Wesleyan University was named the 2025 Division II Award of Excellence winner.

for its efforts with the Pirate Toy Fund. Augusta University received the runner-up prize for the men's basketball team's community engagement efforts through their annual Education Day game. Mars Hill University was the third-place recipient for its community engagement efforts following Hurricane Helene in September 2024.

21. **Executive Board, Management Council, SAAC Joint Meeting.** The committee reviewed the agenda and discussed the information that would be covered during the Executive Board, Management Council and SAAC joint meeting. Committee members had roundtable discussions about the Division II outcomes from the NCAA National Study on Collegiate Sports Wagering and Social Environments, received updates and engaged in discussions about the Championships Committee's review of selection criteria and bracketing, and engaged in professional development.
22. **Joint SAAC Lunch.** The committee reviewed the agenda and discussed the joint SAAC lunch that was attended by the national SAACs from all three divisions. The three SAACs discussed a new student-athlete structure that will provide feedback to the Board of Governors after the Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee was sunset in October 2024.
23. **Leadership Development Opportunities.** Lamarr Pottinger, director of leadership development, spoke with the committee about opportunities for student-athletes through leadership development. The opportunities include the NCAA Career in Sports Forum, NCAA Emerging Leaders Seminar, NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program and NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum.
24. **Make-A-Wish®.** The committee received an update on the 2025 Week of Wishes occurring February 15-22. During the week, institutions are encouraged to consider hosting a fundraising event for Make-A-Wish, such as Make-A-Wish games, and promote the division's partnership. All donations should be submitted through each school's Make-A-Wish page.
25. **Team IMPACT®.** The committee was informed that Division II currently has 180 matches involving 91 campuses and all 23 Division II conferences. Since the partnership began, Division II has had 728 matches involving 217 campuses and all 23 conferences. The committee also learned the 2025-26 Team IMPACT Fellowship application is now open.
26. **Division II Make It Yours Brand/Marketing Strategy.** The committee received an update on the Division II partnership with advertising firm BarkleyOKRP on the continued activation of the Make It Yours brand. On January 6, the campaign launched through paid media placements that will continue to run on YouTube, Meta, TikTok and live-streaming services like Hulu and YouTube TV through March 14, 2025. Additionally, two 30-second PSAs will be shown during the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships on CBS and ESPN+, respectively.



27. **Division II Membership Survey.** The committee was provided an overview of the membership survey that will be distributed following the NCAA Convention to Division II staff members and head coaches at Division II schools and conference office staff. The survey will help determine key priorities, goals and objectives regarding championships, budget allocations, the Division II philosophy, student-athlete experiences, athletic operations and more as the division embarks on developing a new six-year strategic plan that will begin in January 2026. The committee was reminded about the SAAC and student-athlete experience questions that the committee provided input on during its November 2024 meeting.
28. **Division II Committee Reports.** SAAC members serving on Division II committees provided updates on their respective committees. The Division II committees represented were the Academic Requirements Committee, Administrative Committee, Championships Committee, Executive Board, Legislation Committee, Management Council, Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.
29. **Association-Wide Committee Reports.** Members serving on Association-wide committees provided updates on their respective committees. The Association-wide committees represented were the Board of Governors, CSMAS, Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women's Athletics.
30. **Prepare Conference Meeting Summaries.** The committee reviewed discussion topics to be shared during conference meetings later in the week.
31. **November 2024 meeting report.** The November 2024 committee meeting report was reviewed and approved.
32. **Future Meetings.**
  - a. April 24-27, 2025, in conjunction with the SAAC Super Region Convention; Indianapolis.
  - b. July 16-17, 2025, SAAC meeting; videoconference.
  - c. July 18, 2025; Management Council/SAAC Summit; videoconference.
  - d. November 20-23, 2025; in conjunction with the SAAC Super Region Convention; Denver.
  - e. January 13-17, 2026; in conjunction with the 2026 NCAA Convention; Washington D.C.

*Committee Chair:* Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Ryan Jones, Governance  
Marcus Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Becca Medel, Governance  
Morgan Melchert, Eligibility Center  
Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee January 13-14, 2025, Nashville, Tennessee	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.	
Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
Scott Borgmann Jr., Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.	
Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.	
Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference.	
Adorijan Daniels, University of Nebraska at Kearney, At-Large.	
Alexis Devlin, Catawba College, South Atlantic Conference.	
Cullen Dore, Francis Marion University, Conference Carolinas.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference.	
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.	
Grace Hoeppner, Michigan Technological University, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference. (January 13)	
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference.	
David Mayser, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Pacific West Conference.	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. (January 14)	
Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.	
Derrick Parker II, Grand Valley State University, At-Large.	
Larry Parkinson, Executive Board Independent Member.	
Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Alia Scotka, University of West Florida, Gulf South Conference.	
Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University, At-Large.	

<b>Absentees:</b>
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference. <i>(January 14)</i>
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. <i>(January 13)</i>
Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Doug Blais, Nicole Colley, Maggie Gibbons, Alex Givens, Colleen Perry Keith, Sam Kirkpatrick, Linda Livingstone, Madeleine McKenna, Roberta Page and Amy VanRyn.
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Charlie Baker, Marcus Brown, Dawn Buth, Deena Casiero, Michael Cioroianu, Jalaun Covington, Brooke Dixon, Ryan Jones, Karen Keyler, Karen Kirsch, Kevin McColaugh, Becca Medel, Morgan Melchert, Lamarr Pottinger, Jared Tidemann and Megan Villanueva.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MARCH 31, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Discussion on NCAA Student-Athlete Community Engagement Survey.** Stephannnie Harvey-Vandenberg, NCAA managing director of external engagement, special projects and strategic programs, and Matt White, director of community engagement, previewed a community engagement survey that will be administered to all NCAA student-athletes this fall. It is anticipated that the survey will ask student-athletes about the importance of community engagement to them and their campuses, initiatives student-athletes are doing on campus and student-athletes' involvement in the community.

The committee also learned the community engagement team's strategic pillars that were designed to enhance the student-athlete experience. The strategic pillars include literacy, underserved/underrepresented communities and health and wellness for student-athletes and the youth.

The committee was joined by the Division I and Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committees. The three SAACs were asked to provide examples of community engagement on their campuses. The committee members discussed a student-athlete field day involving the community, initiatives involving mental health, wellbeing and LGBTQ+, life after athletics and a wheelchair basketball game.

2. **Update on NCAA's Congressional Engagement Efforts.** Dawn Buth, NCAA managing director of government relations, and Austin Meo, assistant director of government relations, provided an overview of the work of the office of government relations and the NCAA's goals for congressional policies, and they reiterated why student-athlete voices matter. In the next few weeks, the office of government relations anticipates four hearings and a roundtable discussion on college athletics.

Student-athletes were encouraged to get involved by writing a letter on behalf of their school or conference, sharing their thoughts on social media and meeting with members of Congress to advocate for congressional action to benefit student-athletes. Congressional engagement resources are available to help student-athletes, such as previous letters written by student-athletes, templated letters created by student-athletes and a student-athlete toolkit for social media posts.

A monthly congressional engagement meeting hosted by the office of government relations is available for committee members to attend. The first meeting was held in March 2025 and attended by the committee's congressional engagement goal team. Other committee members interested in attending were encouraged to contact Meo. Student-athletes from the Division I and Division III SAACs also participated in this update.

3. **Update on Division II Eligibility Review Working Group.** The committee received an update on a Division II working group created to perform a comprehensive eligibility review. The group is composed of 25 members and includes all members of the Division II Academic Requirements Committee and Legislation Committee as well as the chairs of the Division II SAAC, Management Council and Executive Board who serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members.

The Eligibility Review Working Group has met three times. In its last meeting, the group drafted four concepts for membership feedback in April and May. The group will then reconvene to review the feedback and may submit legislative recommendations this summer to the Management Council and/or Executive Board to consider sponsoring for a vote at the 2026 NCAA Convention.

4. **Update on Division II Football Date Formula.** The committee received an update on the responses received by football-sponsoring conferences on the Division II football date formula. Given the number of responses received by some conferences, the committee discussed ways to potentially increase the number of responses. About 1,300 completed responses have been received. The committee was reminded that the survey closes April 7. The committee will review the survey feedback during its April 24 meeting and determine whether it will indicate its support for a potential football date formula policy change currently being discussed by the Division II Football Committee and the Division II Championships Committee.
5. **Update on Next Steps with Division II SAAC's 2024-25 Goals.** With the committee accomplishing its civic engagement and internal document activations in the last few months, members are asked to meet with their respective goal teams one time before the committee's April 24 meeting to determine a member who will lead the goal team. For the meeting, teams are asked to determine how they would like to determine the team leader and if needed, conduct an election. It was noted that the leader will be responsible for making sure their goal team is meeting regularly, and progress is being made. These individuals will also be responsible for facilitating the discussion during goal team meetings and scheduling the meetings. First-year committee members were encouraged to consider the opportunity as a way to step into a leadership role early in their term.
6. **Future Meetings.**

- a. April 24-27, 2025, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Indianapolis.
- b. July 16-17, 2025, SAAC meeting; videoconference.
- c. July 18, 2025, Management Council and SAAC Summit; videoconference.
- d. November 20-23, 2025, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Denver.

- e. January 13-17, 2026, in conjunction with the 2026 NCAA Convention, Washington, D.C.

*Committee Chair:* Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.  
*Staff Liaisons:* Ryan Jones, Governance  
 Marcus Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Morgan Melchert, Eligibility Center  
 Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee March 31, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Sean Belzer, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.	
Scott Borgmann Jr., Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.	
Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference.	
Adoriyan Daniels, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
Alexis Devlin, Catawba College, South Atlantic Conference.	
Darcey Dorris, Central State University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Connor Fournier, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference.	
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.	
Grace Hoeppner, Michigan Technological University, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference.	
Zeke Jarzyniecki, Belmont Abbey College, Conference Carolinas.	
Rita-Marie Masi, Mercy University, East Coast Conference.	
Rachel McCool, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Derrick Parker II, Grand Valley State University, At-Large.	
Larry Parkinson, Executive Board Independent Member.	
Rowan Ruggerio, American International College, Northeast-10 Conference.	
Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Alia Scotka, University of West Florida, Gulf South Conference.	
Lily Ventresca, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.	
Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University, At-Large.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	

<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Roberta Page.
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Marcus Brown, Dawn Buth, Terri Steeb Gronau, Stephannnie Harvey-Vandenberg, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Morgan Melchert, Austin Meo and Matt White.



REPORT OF THE NCAA  
DIVISION II CONVENTION PLANNING PROJECT TEAM  
MARCH 21, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The chair convened the videoconference and welcomed the new Management Council members appointed to the project team.
2. **Debrief of 2025 NCAA Convention.** The project team reviewed and discussed the results of the 2025 NCAA Convention survey that was completed by Division II delegates. [Attachment A]
3. **General Information from Convention Management.**
  - a. **Tentative Schedule for the 2026 Convention.** The project team received an update that the draft Association-wide schedule for the 2026 Convention is under review with the Convention management team. Specially, the Convention management team is looking at possibly changing the date formula from a Wednesday through Saturday model to a Tuesday through Friday model. The Convention management team has begun negotiations with the Gaylord National and will have more information to share during the project team's June meeting.
  - b. **Logistics.** The 2026 Convention will be held in Washington, D.C. It is expected that most of the Convention delegates will be housed at the Gaylord National. Overflow hotels with different price points will be available near the Gaylord National. In addition, it is likely all of the Division II programming will be held on site. If needed, the Convention management staff will use an overflow hotel near the Gaylord.

The Convention management staff will know more about logistics for meeting rooms in the coming months. The portal to request meeting space is expected to open June 24. Meeting space will be allocated on a first come first served basis.
4. **Review of Draft Division II Core Schedule for the 2026 Convention.** The project team reviewed a draft schedule of Division II programs and activities for the Convention [Attachment B]. Division II activities are tentatively planned to remain very similar to the schedule for the 2025 Convention. The project team also reviewed timing options for the Division II-specific education sessions and will continue to discuss during its June meeting.
5. **Discuss Options for Division II Education Sessions at the 2026 Convention.** The project team discussed potential topics for educational programming for both divisional and



Association-wide sessions and would like the Management Council and Executive Board to provide feedback during their April meetings [Attachment C].

The project team noted that there was positive feedback related to offering round-table opportunities for Division II-specific education sessions on the third day of Convention. The project team reviewed two possible timing options for these education sessions: (a) three concurrent education sessions from 9 to 10:15 a.m. (traditional format); or (b) one featured session from 8 to 9 a.m. and two concurrent sessions from 9 to 10:15 a.m. The project team will continue to discuss format and timing as topics are developed.

During its discussion, the project team ranked the following topics as possible Division II education session ideas:

- Landscape, big picture of Division II athletics – Transfer Portal, name, image and likeness.
- Budgeting - fundraising, revenue generation (including new ways), regular-season travel costs, alcohol sales.
- Name, image and likeness.
- General Q&A session – more tenured vs. less tenured; by positions; topics to choose from at each table.
- Artificial intelligence.

A more definitive list for approval during the summer will be developed once input is received.

6. **Future Meeting.** The project team will conduct its next videoconference at 11 a.m. Eastern time June 16.

*Project Team Chair: Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University*

*Liaisons: Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*

*Maritza Jones, Division II Governance*

*Ann Martin, Division II Governance*

*Jill Waddell, Division II Governance*

NCAA Division II Convention Planning Project Team March 22, 2024, Videoconference	
<b>Members in Attendance:</b>	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Jennifer Flowers, Southwest Minnesota State University.	
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University.	

David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines.
Kristinia Ortiz, Georgian Court University.
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
<b>Absentees:</b>
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University.
Bo Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University.
<b>Guests:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza S. Jones, Ryan Jones, Ann Martin, Angela Red, Crystal Reimer and Jill Waddell.



*2025 Convention  
Attendee Survey Results  
Division II*

**Methods**

- This was a survey of the NCAA attendees that participated in the 2025 Convention. The purpose was to assess their satisfaction with various components of the convention. Attendees were also asked for feedback regarding the session(s) and what NCAA staff members can do to improve their experience.
- The survey was designed to take no more than 10-minutes and was administered online through Qualtrics survey software.
- The survey was open from January 17 to January 31, 2025.

**1. What is your position? (select all that apply)**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Count</b>
Director of Athletics	30%	68
Assistant or Associate AD	23%	51
Senior Woman Administrator	19%	42
Faculty Athletics Representative	18%	40
Commissioner	7%	15
Assistant or Associate Commissioner	4%	8
President/Chancellor	4%	8
Other	3%	6
National SAAC member	2%	5
Student (non-SAAC)	<1%	2
Athletics Direct Report	<1%	2

**1a. OTHER - What is your position?**

Deputy AD
Delegate
Independent representative
Administrative Assistant - Business Operations
Deputy Commissioner
Compliance Coordinator
Compliance Coordinator
AVP, Athletics
Deputy Commissioner
Vice President
Director of Communications
Compliance
NCAA Compliance Officer

Director of Student Success
Vice President Student Life
Director of Communications

## 2. What is your division?

Division	Percent	Count
Division II	34%	225

## 3. How much influence did the following factors have on your decision to attend the 2025 NCAA Convention?

Statement	Major Influence	Moderate Influence	Minor Influence	No Influence	Count
NCAA business/voting	72%	18%	5%	5%	222
Conference business	61%	23%	12%	5%	222
Opportunities to connect with other participants	55%	34%	7%	4%	224
Education sessions	34%	39%	19%	7%	221
Social events/receptions	27%	30%	28%	15%	220
Location	25%	26%	19%	29%	217
Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation	8%	25%	35%	32%	214
NCAA Woman of the Year Awards Presentation	8%	23%	31%	38%	215

## 4. Did the 2025 NCAA Convention schedule allow you to go to the sessions or events that you most wanted to attend?

Yes	No	Count
88%	13%	224

## 5. What aspects of the schedule prevented your attendance at sessions or events at their scheduled time? (select all that apply)

Statement	Percent	Count
Overlap with another Convention session	74%	25
Other	12%	4
Time of day	6%	2
Sequence	6%	2
External conflict	3%	1

**5a. OTHER -What aspects of the schedule prevented your attendance at sessions or events at their scheduled time?**

first few days was exclusive sessions, then when DII came up we had to choose one. I would have wanted to attend more specific DII sessions then global sessions that are more DI heavy
DII sessions on Thursday morning were all at the same time
Unfortunately, due to conference meeting, I missed the DII session block
I was disappointed that the DII educational sessions seemed to almost completely overlap.

**6. How did you get news and information about the 2025 NCAA Convention? (select all that apply)**

Statement	Percent	Count
Emails or newsletters from NCAA national office	76%	170
NCAA Events app	48%	107
Conference office	45%	101
Colleagues and/or friends	29%	66
ncaa.org	20%	44
NCAA social media	11%	24
Media reports	<1%	2
Other	<1%	1

**6a. OTHER -How did you get news and information about the 2025 NCAA Convention?**

Provisional Membership Process
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**7. For each of the following events that you attended, please use the scale below to indicate your overall evaluation.**

Statement	Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
NCAA Woman of the Year Awards Presentation (Wednesday)	98%	65%	33%	2	0	83
Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation (Tuesday)	98%	61%	37%	2%	0%	138
Welcome reception (Tuesday)	91%	51%	40%	8%	<1%	153

**8. Please evaluate the Convention registration process.**

Statement	Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
Online registration	98%	75%	23%	2%	<1%	219
On-site registration	98%	80%	18%	1%	1%	157

**9. Would you recommend the 2026 NCAA Convention to someone else?**

Yes	No	Count
96%	4%	224

**10. Please indicate your overall evaluation of the 2025 NCAA Convention.**

Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
89%	39%	50%	10%	<1%	224

**11. Thinking about your 2025 NCAA Convention experience, please evaluate the NCAA national office staff's support overall (including pre-Convention and during the Convention).**

Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
97%	68%	29%	3%	0%	224

**12. Please evaluate the education sessions you attended:**

Session	Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
Division III: Recruitment and Retention of Athletics Personnel (Wednesday)	100%	50%	50%	0%	0%	8
Featured - Paris 2024: The NCAA Impact at the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Tuesday)	96%	48%	48%	4%	0%	23
Division III: Survive and Thrive (Wednesday)	93%	14%	79%	7%	0%	14
Featured - Elevating Equity: Expanding and Celebrating New Opportunities for Women's Sports (Wednesday)	84%	31%	53%	14%	2%	51
Navigating the Inclusion Landscape (Wednesday)	84%	36%	48%	8%	8%	25
Social Media: When Turning It Off Is Not an Option (Tuesday)	83%	25%	58%	17%	0%	53
Featured - Student-Athlete Health, Safety and Performance (Wednesday)	81%	32%	49%	20%	0%	71
NCAA Enforcement: The Year Behind and the Year Ahead (Tuesday)	81%	24%	57%	20%	0%	51

## Education Sessions CONTINUED

Session	Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
Division I: Core Guarantees in the Division I Student-Athlete Holistic Model (Wednesday)	80%	40%	40%	20%	0%	5
Featured - How Is Sports Betting Impacting Student-Athletes? (Wednesday)	80%	28%	52%	21%	1%	94
Division II: Strategic Approach to Adding Division II Sports (Wednesday)	78%	30%	48%	21%	2%	107
Winning with Data: NCAA Fan Database and Informed NCAA Championship Site Selection (Wednesday)	72%	31%	41%	28%	0%	32
Division II: Name, Image and Likeness: What Are Others Doing at the Division II Level? (Wednesday)	70%	22%	48%	25%	5%	142
Today's NIL Resources (Wednesday)	66%	19%	47%	27%	7%	118
Division III: Fan Behavior and Sportsmanship (Wednesday)	63%	45%	18%	36%	0%	11

## DIVISION II

14. If you participated in the following session during the NCAA Convention, please indicate your overall evaluation.

Session	Very Good + Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Count
NCAA Division II Keynote Session (Thursday)	95%	70%	25%	5%	0%	207
NCAA Division II Business Session (Friday)	95%	55%	40%	4%	<1%	202
NCAA Division II Education Session – Enrollment Management/Roster Management (Thursday)	87%	33%	54%	13%	0%	76
NCAA Division II Education Session – Staffing at Division II Campuses (Thursday)	87%	38%	49%	9%	4%	77
NCAA Division II Education Session – Fundraising/Alternative Revenue Streams (Thursday)	81%	32%	49%	18%	1%	95



What is your position?	Please list any other factors that influenced your decision to attend the 2025 NCAA Convention.
Assistant or Associate AD	Conference Executive Meeting
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	Time of year
Faculty Athletics Representative	School Athletic Dept team building opportunity, engaging with other school members of our conference, and meeting other FARs from around the nation.
Director of Athletics	Management Council
Director of Athletics	I attended for the conference meeting and the voting session.
President/Chancellor	We are required to attend as we are in year three of the provisional membership process.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	As part of our reclassification process, we were required to attend. Also, our conference winter ManCo meeting was held during this time.
Director of Athletics	Committee work
Director of Athletics	One venue for hotel and convention
Faculty Athletics Representative	Drive to location
Independent representative	Mandatory NCAA meetings
Director of Athletics	Committee work/responsibility
Commissioner	I utilize the NCAA Convention for networking and conference business. Those are the primary factors for my participation.
Administrative Assistant - Business Operations	This is my first job, and I wanted to use this as a learning opportunity so I can excel in my career.
Senior Woman Administrator	Provisional year 1
Assistant or Associate AD	to get info on the latest in the changing landscape of college athletics
Faculty Athletics Representative	Expectation of my campus leadership that I attend
Director of Athletics	Networking
Athletics Direct Report	New to athletics staff.
Director of Athletics	to do what I should do professionally
Director of Athletics	Meeting with some 3rd party vendors about items we use throughout the year or are required to purchase.
Director of Athletics	None - I attend due to the business sessions and voting.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator,Other, please specify:	It was my first time attending so I thought it would be a good experience and a good opportunity to learn and meet people.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Requirement due to provisional status
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	It is part of my job!
National SAAC Member	speaking with the NCAA President and having Steve Jones presentation.
Director of Athletics	CONNECTING WITH COLLEAGUES FROM ALL AROUND THE NCAA ON ALL LEVELS IS VITAL. YOU MUST HAVE THIS SETTING TO ACHIEVE THIS
Vice President Student Life	New to supervising D2
National SAAC Member	National SAAC business meetings!
Director of Athletics	NCAA Division II Football Alliance Meeting
Director of Athletics	The NCAA Convention should be a priority for everyone DII member for all the reasons stated above (education, networking, awards presentations, state of the union, business sessions, etc).
Senior Woman Administrator	It's an annual expectation of our department.
Faculty Athletics Representative	mandatory voting for our university
Faculty Athletics Representative	I would love for there to be a few more education sessions, especially a few for FARs
Assistant or Associate AD	Provisional membership Process requirement
Faculty Athletics Representative	Location and FAR exposure

What is your position?	What aspects of the Convention make you unable to recommend it?
Director of Athletics	Weak presentations
Assistant or Associate AD	It's not designed for anyone else
Assistant or Associate AD	It is cost prohibitive and takes time away from campus when the spring semester is just beginning. Having attended over 15 of them over the years, I can see the value for younger administrators just starting their journey but overall with improvements to technology and the ability to conduct business online I don't feel it has the same level of value. In reality I flew in for our Conference Office meeting and the business session only.
Senior Woman Administrator	I don't believe the education sessions are that informative.
Faculty Athletics Representative	As a FAR there wasn't one program focused on the role of FARs this year and very little programming that related to our role.
Director of Athletics	I'm not sure it is the best utilization of my time these days
Director of Athletics	I just think it is a waste of money and I don't mean there is no value but its a lot of money to sit in a room and vote.
Director of Athletics	Continued over-emphasis on social engineering efforts.
Senior Woman Administrator	The programming is not valuable enough for someone to attend without other reasons being at the convention.

What is your position?	What can NCAA staff members do to improve your experience?
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior President/Chancellor	There needs to be follow up from shorts travel insuring that the hotels are confirmed within the last week prior to the convention.
Faculty Athletics Representative	The staff is outstanding and leaves nothing up to chance.
President/Chancellor	Since such an elaborate convention center, more signage or more people directing traffic. the past conventions seemed to have more volunteers showing which way to go, helping with signage as well.
President/Chancellor	The online registration is confusing and hard to navigate. I could not get in at all, but my assistant finally called and figured it out.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	Education and explanation of DII legislation continues to be behind, for example information about the implication of the common bylaw was the day before and some delegates may not have understood or heard the implications.
Director of Athletics	have the app out earlier
President/Chancellor	If holding another meeting at the same location, provide staff at key junctions to provide directions (neither the hotel nor the convention center are known for a straight forward layout).
Delegate	Be more intentional.
Assistant or Associate AD	On site admins were fine and helpful.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Research locations where hotels are not so expensive \$1000 for three night is expensive when university budgets are tight
Administrative Assistant - Business Operations	Let us know if there will be a full meal or appetizers during receptions.
Director of Athletics	our conference meeting location was awful, we should have been moved elsewhere, site prep would have made that very obvious
Faculty Athletics Representative	Scheduling sessions in a way that allows attendees in a particular division to attend a greater number of relevant events.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Staff was great, very supportive, friendly.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	I would like to see more choices in the educational sessions
Senior Woman Administrator	Give more seating opportunities to the main events Provide actual meals for the provided meals so the lack of per diem is rational instead of a hinderance
Faculty Athletics Representative	There weren't very many sessions that applied to me in my role as FAR or SAAC advisor. In past conventions there were some sessions that were geared toward those roles.
Assistant or Associate Commissioner	Do not schedule 3 DII Educational Sessions at the same time.
AVP, Athletics	More education sessions specific to Division II at varying times. They were all scheduled at the same time.
Director of Athletics	Shorten on-site convention lines
Faculty Athletics Representative	I do not recall receiving a confirmation for housing, I had to reach out and make sure it was confirmed.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	I'm not sure they can do much at all, I just didn't see or run into the staff as much as I have in the past. I wondered if travel had been cut back due to budget. The people I did run into were awesome as always.
Athletics Direct Report	Do not put multiple sessions for one division at the same time.
Director of Athletics	shorten the convention by a day
Director of Athletics	Business can not be conducted once a year, Division II must be more flexible to deal with issues that arise.
Director of Athletics	Cheaper merchandise.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Include some education sessions targeted to FARS and our job as FAR
Director of Athletics	The opening welcome reception was very scattered and I feel that we were funneled into an area down by the water and then there was no place to sit and lines for food were long. It would have been better in a ballroom with stations to spread out.

What is your position?	What can NCAA staff members do to improve your experience?
Faculty Athletics Representative	Staff members could revert to Wednesday through Friday calendar. As an FAR, I prefer the previous convention schedule that ended on Saturday instead of Friday. I had to meet students for first classes of new semester on Monday & Tuesday, so I could not arrive until late Wednesday afternoon. As a result, I missed many events this year that I attended during previous January conventions.
Senior Woman Administrator	As a woman, I felt like I was stopped by the escalator when going to the registration table. I was told that I needed to be escorted if I didn't have proof of registration. I watched many men walk by without being stopped in the same fashion. I understand the transgender opposition folks were near the registration, but I was annoyed witnessing only women being stopped.
Director of Athletics	More educational sessions that deal with relationships, finances, operations, and move away from diversity, mental health, gender, etc.
Assistant or Associate AD	Snacks and drinks at the ed sessions! :) More actual education. Roundtables about fundraising with people who are in completely different situations aren't helpful.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Ensure that there are more vegan or vegetarian options at the receptions or that they are more clearly marked. It was so chaotic that it was hard to tell if there were veggie options somewhere.
NCAA Compliance Officer	Keep a great communication
Faculty Athletics Representative	Not sure if this goes here or elsewhere, but none of the attendees from my institution received notification of hotel confirmation until I did some emailing a week before the Convention. Fortunately we all had housing, but it did cause a slight panic on our side.
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	Would like to have a few new topics in the sessions for discussions. Sometimes I feel that most sessions are catered to people that are new to collegiate athletics versus more seasoned administrators. I also feel that the round table discussions were extremely helpful to hear feedback from various industry professionals.
Director of Athletics	When choosing a venue, try to get one that is not like a maze. The different levels for eating options and distance from some rooms proved to be a hassle. Furthermore, the meeting rooms were sometimes far from one another, or too small (e.g. House presentation) to accommodate interested individuals. Also, explaining how the provided merchandise vouchers work would have been good to note.
National SAAC Member	Smaller hotel to navigate
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	Have less Division I programming as they don't attend Convention. Too much programming for them
Assistant or Associate Commissioner, Senior Woman Administrator	The pre-registration process for sessions I wished to attend filled up and then my excitement dropped off after registration. I also wanted to attend 2 that happened at the same time as another. Lots of emphasis on gambling and NIL (geared more to DI), would have liked another HOT topic.
Faculty Athletics Representative	This convention had no sessions related the academics or the FAR role as in previous conventions.
Faculty Athletics Representative	nothing...they're all amazing and so professional
Director of Athletics	hotel construction made navigating difficult at times. Also when breakfast was provided, the staff only opened 1 line at a time and was quite rude to attendees at times
Faculty Athletics Representative	The Knight Commission presentation on the House settlement should have been in one of the ballrooms. I do not understand why it was put in such a small room. The NCAA should have anticipated the larger demand.
Director of Athletics	Stop pushing the LGBT/DEI stuff and focus on the core mission of ensuring a level competitive playing field.
Director of Athletics	more educational sessions

What is your position?	Please list any topics that you feel should be featured at the 2026 NCAA Convention.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Topics specifically for faith based universities
Director of Athletics	More roundtable forums over lectures
Faculty Athletics Representative	Maybe an FAR question or experience session.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	Changing dynamic of college students - increase in summer coursework, dual enrollment, average time to complete an undergraduate degree and the impacts on DII scholarship and participation planning.
Assistant or Associate AD	Everything is rinse, wash, repeat. If the entire membership is expected to attend, the programming needs to be better. Facilities, scheduling, compliance, eligibility, more round table discussions
Director of Athletics	Athletic training, Mental health resources, Revenue generation, Staffing
Faculty Athletics Representative	AI and the student-athlete experience
Assistant or Associate Commissioner,Senior Woman Administrator	Sports Betting - Education and Solutions / Mental Health First Aid
Assistant or Associate AD	Continue NIL discussions, Bring back the compliance booth!
Director of Athletics	Tough question to answer this early. SO much can happen before the next convention to ask.
Commissioner	Too early to know. Have to be responsive to the rapidly changing climate. D1 changes impact on D2 would be really important. Education on change to NPI for regional rankings if done. Education on championships budgeting including the high relative expense of the Division II festival versus the same championships as a standalone.
Administrative Assistant - Business Operations	Division II fundraising. What can we do better? What are new ideas? What are Division I schools doing that Division II schools can implement?
Director of Athletics	How the house settlement will impact us at D2.? If it is finalized by then. If not just sharing what could happen
Director of Athletics	Resources and best practices for mental health directly relating and specifically for coaches and administrators.
Director of Athletics	future, navigating new presidents, HS sport trends to keep an eye on
Director of Athletics	Keynote
Faculty Athletics Representative	academic progress guidelines, transfer portal, review of lawsuits,
Compliance Coordinator	Continued NIL discussions. More education session in regards to fundraising in Division II
Director of Athletics	Transfer Portal and it's effects
Faculty Athletics Representative	Mental health and Belonging/inclusion,
Athletics Direct Report	Navigating multidivisional institutions and Title IX, specifically with regard to the House Settlement.
Assistant or Associate AD	Developing partnerships for Athletic Training.
Director of Athletics	The three morning sessions for DII on Thursday were at the same time. It would have been a better approach to have access to one or two of these on Wednesday. I would like to see DII programming on Wed. afternoons and Thursday mornings. I understand there were some sessions on Wed. afternoon, but I think if possible we should have a few more options.
National SAAC Member,Student (non-SAAC)	Mental Health practices Community engagement Improving game day experience/support, not just championships
Director of Athletics	NCAA Division II needs to expand Football playoffs now there is an AQ. NCAA Division II needs to make Championships a priority, financial investment needs to made in Championships. NCAA Division II needs to have a way to make decisions during the year without waiting to convention to deal with immediate issues.
Faculty Athletics Representative	More on how FARs can help at their institution - academic issues -
Director of Athletics	Topics discussed should address current trends in athletics
Faculty Athletics Representative	More FAR related topics and role specific round tables , The transfer portal ,How to propose legislation
Assistant or Associate AD	Compliance. Financial Aid. Recruitment. Fundraising. NIL. Playing and Practice seasons.

What is your position?	Please list any topics that you feel should be featured at the 2026 NCAA Convention.
Faculty Athletics Representative	I think there needs to be education session directed at FARs at each convention. There were no FAR specific sessions at all and most of the sessions were not really relevant.
Director of Athletics	One suggestion which would go away from the current Division II scheduling block would be to break up the specific sessions. I would have liked to attend more than one of the Thursday morning topics but have to pick from the three and miss the other options.
Faculty Athletics Representative	We need more for Faculty Athletic Reps. That was noticeably absent this year.
Faculty Athletics Representative	In past years, there has been specific session or sessions for FARs. I missed having that this year.
Director of Athletics	Managing rising expectations with available resources. How to manage and motivate staff/coaches during uncertain times
Vice President Student Life	Sessions should be more expert information based. Several of the sessions I attended gave no new information and put all the labor on the participants in a table brainstorming method.
Director of Athletics	1) Keeping the Division II promise and meaning it. 2) NIL support in the Division II and Division III space. 3) State system problems, aligning Athletics with state system policies.
National SAAC Member	Sports betting, NIL, non employment status, SAAC impact
Assistant or Associate Commissioner, Senior Woman Administrator	I did like the emphasis on taking care of the Athletic Trainers, I feel like we are all struggling with that one. Maybe dealing with mental health for SA and Staff?
Director of Athletics	Changing landscape of college athletics; Title IX (gender equity); professional development growth - moving from DIII to DII to DI, or moving from Associate AD to AD, etc.; NIL; fund raising.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Sports as part of the university. Stress.
Director of Athletics	navigating small college operations , fundraising at small colleges/HBCU's, strategic partnerships
Director of Athletics	How Division II is thriving midst the ever changing landscape (and challenges) of collegiate athletics (house settlement, NIL, transfer portal, etc.), and highlight the student-athlete experience
Senior Woman Administrator	Educational sessions providing student athlete success resources, tips, etc. Time management resources for student athletes and staff. Financial literacy educational sessions to help advise our student athletes
Faculty Athletics Representative	Nothing specific. However, there seem to be a limited number of education sessions geared to FARs as compared to the past. Perhaps that is why the number of FARs at this convention seemed to be lower than past years.
Assistant or Associate AD	Impact on Compliance administrators with all the changing landscape. Work load, education resources and help from the NCAA with education on changes as they occur.
Director of Athletics	Why biological men competing against biological men & biological women competing against biological women makes all the sense in the world and honors Title IX
Commissioner	More discussion on championships and where DII is headed in that space. Education on how that budget works and information on bracketing, regionalization, and expansion. It would be great if dialog with NCAA DII governance could take place in a town hall type of setting. Informative updates are sent from the conference office, but it would be beneficial to have a face-to-face dialog with governance staff.
Faculty Athletics Representative	More FAR specific times or places such as a breakfast or something
Faculty Athletics Representative	I really liked the round tables but all round tables were at the same time. It would have been nice to have that option opposite of a lecture or panel based presentation. I would also like to see programming on FARs. What can/should campus be doing. Would also be good to see some sessions on compliance.

What is your position?	Please highlight any additional feedback you have on the Convention sessions you attended that you would like shared with the Convention planning team.
Director of Athletics	I think more round table discussions would be very beneficial
Assistant or Associate AD	Provide Division specific programming. Allow DII to be able to attend multiple session as opposed to picking 1 of 3 sessions at same time, when you may want to attend 2 or all of them.
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	The round tables offered on Thursday at 9 all overlapped each other and members from each session spoke about how good the session was but the overlap didn't allow us time to attend all.
Senior Woman Administrator	The education sessions this year were not that appealing. I mainly attended for the Woman of the Year Celebration and for the conference meetings. The convention could be two days....one day for education sessions, and the second day for both the conference meetings and business session.
Faculty Athletics Representative	maybe a how are schools/ students coping with Transfer Portal especially dealing with Students losing credits through the transfer portal from school to school and running out of eligibility before they finish their classes / degree.
President/Chancellor	It would be nice to have a track specifically for campus presidents/chancellors.
Assistant or Associate AD	This years programming was very poor, especially for the amount charged for registration.
Director of Athletics	Personal preference. The most desirable sessions seemed to be offered at the same time. Potentially a more concise list of options offered multiple times.
Director of Athletics	The three D2 sessions I wanted to attend were all held at the same time.
Assistant or Associate AD	The Keynote session was positive but nothing more than what I have already heard.
Director of Athletics	Round Tables were great. I enjoyed meeting people at my table.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Our GLVC meeting got moved as we didn't have a room reservation-this meant we missed some very good sessions-very frustrating as so expensive to attend the conference
Commissioner	Round tables were very good.
Administrative Assistant - Business Operations	The round table sessions were a great idea.
Commissioner	I really liked the Monday- Friday format. I appreciate not having any business on Saturday.
Director of Athletics	would have been nice to attend the enrollment management meeting but it was same time as fundraising.
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	Loved the roundtable setup, however I did not have a management council member at my table and I would have liked the opportunity to ask questions directly to the panelist.
Assistant or Associate AD	the Gaylord property and meeting space was extremely disappointing; our conference meeting room was in a cavernous exhibition hall, cement floor, no pipe/drape (even though requested), no trash can, birds flying on the food, 30 people in the room and no one could hear anyone speak; felt so disrespected as group
Director of Athletics	The Knight Commission meeting was in the room way to small for the demand of something so important. It felt hidden and much to small. We couldn't even get to the door.
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	I hated that the three sessions on Thursday morning happened at the same time, I would have loved to attend all 3 but had to pick one due to them all happening at the same time. I believe those sessions would have been best if they weren't held congruently.
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	Great Keynote Speaker!
Faculty Athletics Representative	more applicable sessions for FARs
Assistant or Associate AD	I think that the featured sessions being spread out was not helpful as it forced the D2-specific sessions to overlap so I could not attend all of the D2-specific sessions that I wanted to attend. Also, sessions where we get best practices and ideas are the most useful. While having round table discussions is awkward at first, I find them to be the most helpful.
Faculty Athletics Representative	I thought there were more relevant workshops and sessions for a FAR last year. This year was disappointing. I guess I need to attend the FAR Institute and conference and not the NCAA conference in the future.

What is your position?	Please highlight any additional feedback you have on the Convention sessions you attended that you would like shared with the Convention planning team.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	I didn't mind just one breakfast location for the DII and DIII meetings, but coffee/tea would have been really nice to have outside the DII location. It wasn't a super long walk, but it was not convenient for a quick refill once the meeting began.
Athletics Direct Report	Do not put multiple sessions for one division at the same time.
Director of Athletics	shorten the convention by a day. A \$1100 hotel bill is tough to take.
National SAAC Member,Student (non-SAAC)	My name is [name] I am an At-Large member of Division II SAAC, and I run track at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. I attended the Roster management education session. I think the format of having a panel who dealt with those problems and worked through them is helpful. However, opening it up to the floor and asking them what works for them is not effective. Everyone in the education sessions is in there because they have a problem they need it fixed, opening it to the floor is asking them to formulate a solution to a problem they are unequipped to solve. I believe that is why there was so little beneficial feedback directed towards the panel.
Director of Athletics	Really enjoyed the first year AD's breakfast and the conversation we had.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator	The Keynote Speaker was fantastic. I enjoyed his energy and the audience engagement he used to present his session on leadership.
Assistant or Associate AD	I would like the division II specific topics to not all be at the same time. Also, specifically the Division II keynote speaker, the room was entirely too small for the group that attended. There were a few sessions I would have said that for, but none worse than that.
Director of Athletics	The variety of subjects or depth of discussion were not there this year. For instance, there were no sessions for FAR's so the appeal of attending for our FAR in the future was not there.
Assistant or Associate AD,Senior Woman Administrator,Compliance	I think there needs to be more-round table talks. We seemed to get more out of hearing what everyone else was doing at their school then having speakers sit up and answer questions about how they do certain things.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Convention fell first week of spring semester, so as FAR I had to meet classes Monday & Tuesday. I did not arrive until Wednesday night. As a result, I missed two days of events. The new schedule of ending on Friday instead of Saturday prevented my attending many convention sessions.
Faculty Athletics Representative	There were far fewer sessions to choose from and then a bunch that I wanted to attend all at the same time. While I do appreciate having more time to enjoy the host city, I would like more options. I also like that we weren't starting super early each day. We need the schedule earlier for planning. We could have come a day later and saved the university money.
Director of Athletics	It would have been nice to have the three NCAA Division II sessions not run concurrently as they were all of interest. The one I attended was excellent.
Assistant or Associate AD	keep the round tables, i have been to many conventions where its just the panel talking about stuff, talking between everyone you learn a lot more.
Director of Athletics	Education sessions seemed very surface level, not very helpful.
Director of Athletics	I struggle with participating in sessions with round tables but found the staffing one for Division II to be solid with at least one or two things being excellent "take home" thoughts.
Faculty Athletics Representative	The Division II Conference Meeting area was extremely poor. The area was very cold and it was very difficult to hear. Please schedule a better location for the conference meetings to occur. Otherwise, no complaints!
Commissioner	It was in appropriate for chair to call out conference on a co-sponsored vote that passed. Especially a piece of legislation that has been controversial.
Assistant or Associate AD	I felt all of the topics were very relevant to the current Division II landscape.
Vice President Student Life	More sessions with real data and expert information, recommendations for campuses.
Assistant or Associate AD	Limit overlap of division specific presentations.
Assistant or Associate Commissioner,Senior Woman Administrator	As a new person I didn't know the table discussions were going to happen. I would've sat with different people to learn.



What is your position?	Please highlight any additional feedback you have on the Convention sessions you attended that you would like shared with the Convention planning team.
Assistant or Associate AD	Please do not have three Division II sessions occur at the same time again. In my experience, the "division-wide" sessions end up focusing primarily on Division I topics anyways, so have D-II specific counterprogramming going on at that time instead.
Director of Athletics	Reach out to more sitting athletic directors to solicit their interest in speaking. We have a lot of talent and the same individuals are presenting too regularly.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Reception first night was wonderful. D2 keynote was amazing.
Director of Athletics	Reaching out to more AD's to be part of educational sessions / panels.
Faculty Athletics Representative	I was very interested in hearing the presentation on the Knight Commission. The space allocated was way too small. Many of us were turned away. Selecting a larger space for popular sessions such as this was the only negative that I encountered at the convention.
Faculty Athletics Representative	The DII keynote speaker was fantastic!! I would love to have at least one session for FARs. The DII education sessions were not really relevant to a lot of the topics/issues FARs address.
Assistant or Associate AD, Senior Woman Administrator	Steve Jones was a great speaker!! Please continue to invest in an engaging and relevant speakers for the Division II main session.
Faculty Athletics Representative	Brian Higgins did a great job with fanbases
Faculty Athletics Representative	I really liked the round tables but all round tables were at the same time. It would have been nice to have that option opposite of a lecture or panel based presentation. I would also like to see programming on FARs. What can/should campus be doing. Would also be good to see some sessions on compliance.



2026 NCAA Convention  
Division II Core Schedule of Events

**Day One**

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

**Day Two**

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 Concurrent Education Sessions

5 to 6:30 p.m. Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Welcome Reception

**Day Three**

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 4:45 p.m. Association-wide Featured and Concurrent 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 p.m. Woman of the Year Presentation

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

**Day Four**

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

Option No. 1 (for Division II education sessions)

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

9 to 10:15 a.m. Division II Education Sessions (3 concurrent education sessions)

Option No. 2 (for Division II education sessions)

7 to 8 a.m.	Division II Delegates Breakfast
8 to 9 a.m.	Featured Division II Education Session
9 to 10:15 a.m.	Division II Education Session (2 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
TBD	Reception to Celebrate 20 Years of FAR Institutes

**Day Five**

7 to 8 a.m.	Delegates Breakfast
8 to 10:30 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.



**2026 NCAA Convention**  
**List of Potential Division II Education Sessions**  
**Compiled by Members of Convention Planning Project Team**

- Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) – a presentation by DII student athletes that have been successful creating NIL opportunities for themselves and/or universities that have created successful NIL opportunities for their students.
- Continued DII NIL conversations/information/best practices
- Exploring best practices for NIL specific to DII.
- The FAR specific session – There are a lot of FARs at the meeting and we would appreciate a session just for us.
- The Transfer Portal: Analyzing and unpacking data related to the transfer portal and exploring its future, particularly for DII.
- Best practices for welcoming student athletes that transfer to your institution – with the transfer portal student athletes are joining our campuses mid-year or at elevated academic rank (non-freshman) what should athletics/campuses be doing to help them adjust and feel welcome.
- How to support your Athletic Trainers – What can schools do to lessen their burden?
- Adding a sport.
- Being successful on shrinking budgets.
- Budget relations/Budget Management (tricks for continuing to “do more with less”).
- Roster/Enrollment Management (more along the lines of adding Developmental/JV teams or small schools having large rosters for enrollment purposes).
- Fundraising/Alternative revenue.
- Staying positive in stressful times.
- The New DII - brainstorming/roundtables on what DII could/should look like.
- General hot topic session with trends/data of the division.
- Top issues and trends.
- Impact of DI Decisions on DII: Understanding the decisions made in July by DI and how they will affect DII in the upcoming year.

## List of Potential Division II Education Sessions

Compiled by Members of Convention Planning Project Team

Page No. 2

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- Proactive Strategies for DII Business: Session that covers topics such as procurement strategies, decision-making, budgets, revenue opportunities, cost-saving measures, roster management, enrollment management, adding new supports, and sustaining new sports.
- Assistance with how to do reports, navigate portal, maximize IPP. Sort of like a "how to" session, especially for new admins.
- Session on artificial intelligent (AI) in athletics.
- Education around Title IX changes.
- Maximizing mental health services, strength and conditioning services, and nutrition services at our level. This will come at a cost, and we are trying to cover basic costs, so creative and successful ways in which departments have tapped into these services.
- Growing the Coaching Pool / Retaining Coaches.
- Fan Engagement/Community Outreach – how to get more fans at our games.
- Student-Athlete Communication: how much do you tell them? How do you communicate with them (email, tell coaches and hope they tell SA, etc.)
- State of DEI in College Athletics: Discussing the current state of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) within college athletics, its evolution, and the impact of national mandates on DEI efforts across the landscape.
- Fan engagement strategies for events.
- E-Sports: Is there room to coexist?
- Strategic planning for athletic departments.
- Creating transition teams for graduating athletes.
- What to put on social media.
- Sports Wagering.
- General Q&A session where attendees can get new ideas maybe divided into two groups. Group 1 – seasoned administrators, Group 2 – newer administrators.



**2026 NCAA Convention**  
**List of Potential Division II Education Sessions**  
**Compiled from Survey Results**

- Education session for Faculty Athletics Representatives.
- Changing dynamic of college students: increase in summer coursework, dual enrollment, average time to complete an undergraduate degree and the impacts on Division II scholarships and participation.
- Facilities.
- Scheduling.
- Athletic training: developing partnerships to help with coverage.
- Mental health resources, mental health first aid.
- Navigating small college operations: revenue generation, fundraising at small colleges/HBCU's, strategic partnerships.
- Division II fundraising. What can we do better? What are new ideas? What are Division I schools doing that Division II schools can implement?
- Staffing.
- Artificial Intelligence and the student-athlete experience.
- Sports Betting: education and solutions.
- Name, Image and Likeness.
- Education on change to NPI for regional rankings.
- Potential impact of the House Settlement on Division II.
- Navigating new presidents.
- High School sport trends to keep an eye on.
- Academic progress guidelines.
- Transfer portal and its effects.
- Belonging and inclusion.
- Navigating multidivisional institutions and Title IX, specifically about the House Settlement.
- Community engagement; improving game day experience/support.
- Managing rising expectations with available resources - how to manage and motivate staff/coaches during uncertain times.
- Keeping the Division II promise and meaning it.
- Aligning athletics with state-system policies.
- Employment status.
- SAAC impact.
- Sports as part of the university.
- How Division II is thriving midst the ever-changing landscape (and challenges) of collegiate athletics (house settlement, NIL, transfer portal, etc.), and highlight the student-athlete experience.
- Student-athlete success resources: Time-management resources for student athletes and staff. Financial literacy educational sessions to help advise our student athletes.
- More discussion on championships and where DII is headed in that space. Education on how that budget works and information on bracketing, regionalization, and expansion.
- More compliance sessions on maybe the most common violations for the previous year and overview.

REPORT OF THE NCAA  
DIVISION II ELIGIBILITY REVIEW WORKING GROUP  
FEBRUARY 26, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** The NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group (ERWG) chair Audra Kedy, senior associate commissioner for compliance at the Great American Conference, introduced herself, welcomed the working group members to the initial videoconference, and asked all participants to introduce themselves.
2. **Division II Eligibility Review Working Group Charge and Timeline.** Staff provided some background on the reasons, charge and timeline for this eligibility review. In early February 2025, the NCAA Division II Management Council received a legal update regarding recent court cases in Division I regarding eligibility. The Management Council approved the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee and Academic Requirements Committee to perform a comprehensive eligibility review for Division II.

It is expected that the review will start with a focus on issues surrounding seasons of competition and period of eligibility. However, the ERWG will have an opportunity to review feedback from the Division II governance structure and affiliated groups on any other areas that may be important to discuss due to the current landscape in intercollegiate athletics.

It is anticipated that the working group will make final recommendations to the Management Council and NCAA Division II Executive Board in summer 2025, followed by a possible membership vote at the 2026 NCAA Convention. To submit its final report and recommendations, the working group will have regular videoconferences.

3. **Overview of Division II Legislation Regarding Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility.** The ERWG was provided an overview of the legislative history regarding seasons of competition and period of eligibility. In 1960, the membership adopted legislation that added a new section to Article III of the NCAA Constitution to specify that a student-athlete must complete their seasons of participation in five calendar years from the beginning of the semester or quarter in which they first registered at a collegiate institution, time spent in the armed services or on compulsory church missions being exempted.

At the 1982 Convention, NCAA Proposal No. 54 (five-year rule) was adopted. The legislation specified that a Division II and Division III student-athlete must complete their seasons of participation during their first 10-semesters or 15-quarters of full-time collegiate enrollment as determined by the regulations of their institution. Further, the reorganization of the 1989-90 Division II Manual resulted in cases and official interpretations from the

1988-89 Manual being incorporated into the legislation. Therefore, beginning with the 1989-90 Division II Manual, a Division II student-athlete no longer had to complete their seasons of participation in five calendar years. Rather, a Division II student-athlete had four seasons to participate in intercollegiate competition and had to complete their four seasons during their first 10-semesters or 15-quarters of full-time enrollment.

Since the release of the 1989-90 Manual, there has been no additional changes to NCAA Division II Bylaws 14.4.3 (seasons of competition: 10-semester/15-quarter rule) or 14.4.3.2 (ten-semester/15-quarter rule).

The working group was also provided with an overview of the previous reviews initiated by affiliate groups or the governance structure since 2000, including a comprehensive review from 2002 to 2004 at the request of the Division II Athletics Directors Association; and a subsequent review starting in 2023 and conducted by the Division II Legislation Committee at the request of the Division II Implementation Committee.

Finally, the working group reviewed a comparison chart of the differences between Divisions, I, II and III related to seasons of competition/participation, use of a season, period of eligibility and the use of the five-year period/10-semester/15-quarter rule. [Attachment]

4. **Update from the Office of Legal Affairs.** The ERWG was provided with an update on recent legal challenges related to eligibility issues.
5. **Update on Division I Student-Athlete Eligibility Review.** The ERWG was provided an update on a review of Division I student-athlete eligibility that began in March 2023 and was endorsed by the Division I Council in June 2024. The working group was informed that there are currently no proposals in the Division I legislative cycle that would change the current rules in Division I, but concepts may be developed and shared at a future date.
6. **Request for Feedback and Preparation for the March 10 Videoconference.** The ERWG as well as the Management Council, Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee, the Conference Commissioners Association, the Athletics Directors Association board and the executive committee of the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association was sent a survey request regarding seasons of competition and period of eligibility. The deadline for response is Friday, February 28.
7. **Future Videoconferences.**
  - a. 1 to 4 p.m. Eastern time March 10.
  - b. 2:30 to 4 p.m. Eastern time March 26.
  - c. 2 to 4 p.m. Eastern time May 19.



d. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time June 20.

*Working Group Chair: Audra Kedy, Great American Conference*  
*Staff Liaisons: Maritza Jones, Division II Governance*  
*Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*  
*Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Mariah Murdock, Research*  
*Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group February 26, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Members in Attendance:</b>	
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.	
Paul Flores II, Azusa Pacific University.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University.	
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University.	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
Jason Jones, Catawba College.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
George Knox, Shaw University.	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University.	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
Krista Plummer, Northwood University.	
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
Deborah Rogers, Tuskegee University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	

<b>Guests:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support:</b>
Geoff Bentzel, Jeremy Christoffels, Rachel Denton, Terri Steeb Gronau, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Mariah Murdock, Angela Red, Katelyn Skarr, Jared Tidemann, Megan Villanueva and Jill Waddell.

Comparison Chart of Divisions I, II and III Legislation

Seasons of competition/participation	<p><b>Division I:</b> No more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition.</p> <p><b>Division II:</b> No more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition.</p> <p><b>Division III:</b> No more than four seasons of intercollegiate <u>participation</u>.</p>
Use of a season	<p><b>Division I:</b> Any competition, regardless of time, during a season will count as a season of competition.</p> <p><b>Division II:</b> Any competition (including scrimmages with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season will count as a season of competition (see information above regarding the adoption of Proposal No. 2025-5, effective August 1, 2025).</p> <p><b>Division III:</b> Participation in <u>practice or competition</u> during or after the first contest in the traditional segment or participation in intercollege competition during the nontraditional segment will count as a season of participation.</p>
Period of eligibility	<p><b>Division I:</b> Complete four seasons of competition <u>within five calendar years</u> from the beginning of their first full-time semester or quarter.</p> <p><b>Division II:</b> Complete four seasons of competition within the first 10 full-time semesters or 15 full-time quarters.</p> <p><b>Division III:</b> Complete four seasons of <u>participation</u> within the first 10 full-time semesters or 15 full-time quarters.</p>

Use of five-year period/10-semester or 15-quarter	<p><b>Division I:</b> <u>Start of the count for the five-year period begins when a student-athlete registers in a regular term of an academic year full time.</u></p> <p><b>Division II:</b> A student-athlete enrolls full time and attends the first day of classes, even if they drop to part-time status during that first day of classes.</p> <p><b>Division III:</b> A student-athlete enrolls full time and attends the first day of classes, even if they drop to part-time status at any time during the term.</p>
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REPORT OF THE NCAA  
DIVISION II ELIGIBILITY REVIEW WORKING GROUP  
MARCH 10, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group (ERWG) chair Audra Kedy welcomed the working group members and staff to the videoconference.
2. **Approval of February 26, 2025, Division II Eligibility Review Working Group Videoconference Report.** The ERWG reviewed and approved the report from the February 26 videoconference, as submitted.
3. **Division II Eligibility Review Working Group Charge and Timeline.** The working group reviewed the charge and updated timeline, which included the groups that should provide feedback on any concepts that come out of the working group's videoconferences in March. The group discussed whether a survey should be sent to a broader audience from the Division II membership once concepts have been developed and agreed to discuss further during its March 26 videoconference.
4. **Review Division II Data Regarding Season of Competition and Period of Eligibility.** The ERWG reviewed Division II data regarding time to degree for Division II student-athletes who earned their bachelor's degree during the 2022-23 academic year, excluding 4-2-4 transfers. There were 14,160 unique graduates included in this analysis, 10,381 were non-transfers, 2,216 were four-year transfers, and 1,563 were two-year transfers.

Overall, 63% of these student athletes graduated in four years or less. An additional 30% graduated in between four to five years and only seven percent took more than five years to graduate.

The working group also looked at differences between aided vs. nonaided student-athletes. 61% of aided student-athletes took four years or less to graduate, while 68% of unaided student-athletes took four years or less.

When looking at differences between transfer student-athletes vs. non-transfers who graduated in 2022-23, nearly 73% of non-transfers graduated in four years or less. For four-year transfers, 81% graduated in five years or less and for two-year transfers, 79% graduated in five years or less. The largest proportion of two-year and four-year transfers took between four to five years to graduate.

When looking at time to degree by sport for 2022-23 graduates, every women's sport with 50+ graduates had the largest portion of graduates do so in exactly four years.

For men's sports with 50+ graduates, there is a much closer split between four years and four to five years to graduate. Football, wrestling, men's basketball and baseball had more than 10% of student-athletes take more than five years to graduate.

The working group also looked at student-athletes who exhausted their eligibility in the APC cohort from 2017-18 to 2022-23 and noted the following:

- Pre-COVID, the percentage of the overall student-athletes in the APC cohort who exhausted eligibility in a year was over 10% (with over 14% of all students in the 2018 cohort exhausting eligibility that year.) In the most recent data (2023), less than 5% of student-athletes exhausted eligibility for the year.
- The number of first-year student-athletes in any cohort was at its lowest in 2022 at 27.2% after a steady decline of first years in the APC cohort. The percent of first years may be on the rise the further we move away from COVID eligibility. However, the most recent number of first years is still lower than pre-COVID enrollment at 29%.
- The percent of postgraduate student-athletes per year has increased. Pre-COVID, the percent of postgraduate student-athletes was less than 1% and it is at 4% in the most recent cohort.

5. **Review of Membership Feedback on Issues/Topics That Should Be Discussed as Part of This Eligibility Review.** The ERWG was provided with the membership feedback received from the recent survey regarding season competition and period of eligibility. Nearly three-quarters of respondents believe the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility rule is still appropriate, but 25% thinks that it is not. While 54% believed that five seasons of competition should be permissible, another 40% felt that four seasons was the appropriate benchmark, and only 2% supported six seasons.

The feedback was mixed on waivers and exceptions related to seasons of competition and period of eligibility. Sixty percent felt there should be permissible exceptions to using a season of competition; however, only 39% felt there should be exceptions to the period of eligibility.

Finally, most respondents agreed that competition at any two-year or four-year institution of higher education should count toward using a season of competition in Division II and towards the period of eligibility.

6. **Roundtable Discussions and Review Potential Concepts Based on Membership Feedback.** The working group participated in breakout sessions to discuss the data, membership feedback, potential guiding principles for the review, and potential concepts for membership feedback. Following the breakout sessions, the ERWG debriefed the

discussions from each small group and will determine concepts for feedback from the broader membership during its March 26 videoconference.

7. **Next Steps.** The staff will compile the feedback from the breakout sessions and will provide potential concepts for the working group to consider during its March 26 videoconference that can be shared with the broader Division II membership for feedback.

8. **Future Videoconferences.**

- a. 2:30 to 4 p.m. Eastern time March 26.
- b. 2 to 4 p.m. Eastern time May 19.
- c. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time June 20.

*Working Group Chair: Audra Kedy, Great American Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Maritza Jones, Division II Governance*  
*Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*  
*Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Mariah Murdock, Research*  
*Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group March 10, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Members in Attendees:</b>	
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.	
Paul Flores II, Azusa Pacific University.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University.	
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University.	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
Jason Jones, Catawba College.	
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
George Knox, Shaw University.	
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.	

Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University.
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania ( <i>ex officio</i> ).
Krista Plummer, Northwood University.
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.
Deborah Rogers, Tuskegee University.
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University.
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.
<b>Guests:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support:</b>
Rachel Denton, Terri Steeb Gronau, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Mariah Murdock, Angela Red, Katelyn Skarr, Jared Tidemann, Megan Villanueva and Jill Waddell.



REPORT OF THE NCAA  
DIVISION II ELIGIBILITY REVIEW WORKING GROUP  
MARCH 26, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE AND APRIL 1, 2025, ELECTRONIC VOTE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group (ERWG) chair Audra Kedy welcomed the working group members and staff to the videoconference.
2. **Approval of March 10, 2025, Division II Eligibility Review Working Group Videoconference Report.** The ERWG reviewed and approved the report from the March 10 videoconference, as submitted.
3. **Division II Eligibility Review Working Group Charge and Timeline.** The working group reviewed its charge and updated timeline. The timeline has been updated to include timing for a survey that will be sent mid-April.
4. **Review Feedback from Roundtable Discussions during March 10 Videoconference.** The ERWG reviewed the feedback collected from the breakout sessions conducted during its March 10 videoconference.
5. **Determine the Guiding Principles for the Work of the Eligibility Review Working Group.** The ERWG was provided with an overview of draft guiding principles based on the feedback collected during its March 10 videoconference. The working group approved the guiding principles it will follow as it makes recommendations for potential changes to the eligibility rules in Division II:

The guiding principles below were used by the ERWG to create concepts for potential changes to the eligibility rules (seasons of competition and period of eligibility) in Division II.

- Academics should be at the core of all decisions: the primary goal should be to help student-athletes obtain their first baccalaureate degree; earning more than one degree or a postgraduate degree is encouraged and meaningful, if eligibility remains.
- Use data and membership feedback to maximize opportunities for student-athletes to obtain a baccalaureate degree.
- Rules should be tied to higher education principles, which operate on a traditional period of time for a student's start to finish; therefore, Division II rules should include limits on seasons of competition and period of eligibility.

- Rules should be attainable for student-athletes.
- Rules should be sustainable over time.
- Rules should be clear, consistent, easy for student-athletes to understand and for administrators to apply.
- The need for waivers and exceptions should be limited if student-athletes have access to five seasons of competition and should be specific to the period of eligibility and not seasons of competition.
- Concepts were developed to be consistent with the Division II Life in the Balance Philosophy and with the intent of looking at the eligibility of student-athletes going forward, rather than considering any retroactive application.

The working group agreed that the guiding principles will be added to the charge and timeline document.

[Note: The guiding principles were approved April 1 via electronic vote.]

6. **Determine the Concepts to be Presented for Membership Feedback.** The ERWG was provided an overview of potential concepts developed from the feedback received during its March 10 breakout sessions. The working group agreed that the following concepts will be forwarded to the membership for feedback:

	Concept No. 1 Status Quo	Concept No. 2 Four Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 3 Five Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 4 Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters
Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Four seasons of competition.</li><li>• 10-semesters/15-quarters.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Four seasons of competition.</li><li>• Five-year consecutive clock following initial full-time collegiate enrollment.</li></ul> <p>Note: If Concept No. 2 is selected, then NCAA Bylaw 15.1 (eligibility for athletics aid) will need to be amended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Five seasons of competition.</li><li>• Five-year consecutive clock following initial full-time collegiate enrollment.</li></ul> <p>Note: If Concept No. 3 is selected, then NCAA Bylaw 15.1 (eligibility for athletics aid) will need to be amended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Five seasons of competition.</li><li>• 10-semesters/15-quarters.</li></ul>
Use of a Season – Types of Competition that Should Count as Use of a Season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li><li>• For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete’s participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-athlete’s term(s) of participation.</li><li>• A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current rule<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 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.</li><li>○ For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete’s participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current rule<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 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.</li><li>○ For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete’s participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current rule<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 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.</li><li>○ For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete’s participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-</li></ul></li></ul>

	Concept No. 1 Status Quo	Concept No. 2 Four Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 3 Five Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 4 Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters
	will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.	athlete’s term(s) of participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.</li></ul>	athlete’s term(s) of participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.</li><li>• 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 segment, participation in an alumni game).</li></ul>	athlete’s term(s) of participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.</li><li>• 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 segment, participation in an alumni game).</li></ul>
Waivers – Seasons of Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hardship waiver.</li><li>• Season-of-competition -- competition while ineligible.</li><li>• Season-of-competition -- competition while eligible.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current waivers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Hardship waiver.</li><li>○ Season-of-competition -- competition while ineligible.</li><li>○ Season-of-competition -- competition while eligible.</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No waivers.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No waivers.</li></ul>

	Concept No. 1 Status Quo	Concept No. 2 Four Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 3 Five Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 4 Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters
Exceptions – Seasons of Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thirty percent rule during their initial year of collegiate enrollment (effective 8/1/25).</li><li>• Transfer from a non-Division II institution.</li><li>• Division III transfer.</li><li>• Two-year college scrimmages.</li><li>• Competition in the nonchampionship segment and spring football.</li><li>• Recognized foreign exchange/study abroad program.</li><li>• Alumni game, fundraising activity or celebrity sports activity.</li><li>• Preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmages.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current exceptions<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Thirty percent rule during their initial year of collegiate enrollment (effective 8/1/25).</li><li>○ Transfer from a non-Division II institution.</li><li>○ Division III transfer.</li><li>○ Two-year college scrimmages.</li><li>○ Competition in the nonchampionship segment and spring football.</li><li>○ Recognized foreign exchange/study abroad program.</li><li>○ Alumni game, fundraising activity or celebrity sports activity.</li><li>○ Preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmages.</li></ul></li><li>• Injury/illness.</li><li>• Military service.</li><li>• Olympic training.</li><li>• Religious mission.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No exceptions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No exceptions.</li></ul>

	Concept No. 1 Status Quo	Concept No. 2 Four Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 3 Five Seasons of Competition in Five Years	Concept No. 4 Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pregnancy.</li></ul>		
Waivers – Period of Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extension of eligibility.</li><li>• Waiver -- student-athlete who does not use a season of competition during initial year of collegiate enrollment.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current waivers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Extension of eligibility.</li><li>◦ Waiver -- student-athlete who does not use a season of competition during initial year of collegiate enrollment.</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extenuating circumstances.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extenuating circumstances.</li></ul>
Exceptions – Period of Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pregnancy.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Division I exceptions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Service exception (armed services, religious missions or foreign aid services of the U.S. government).</li><li>◦ Academic study abroad exception.</li><li>◦ internship or cooperative educational work experience program.</li><li>◦ Pregnancy.</li></ul></li><li>• Injury/illness.</li><li>• Olympic training.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Division I exceptions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Service exception (armed services, religious missions or foreign aid services of the U.S. government).</li><li>◦ Academic study abroad exception.</li><li>◦ Internship or cooperative educational work experience program</li><li>◦ Pregnancy.</li></ul></li><li>• Injury/illness.</li><li>• Olympic training.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Division I exceptions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Service exception (armed services, religious missions or foreign aid services of the U.S. government).</li><li>◦ Academic study abroad exception.</li><li>◦ Internship or cooperative educational work experience program.</li><li>◦ Pregnancy.</li></ul></li><li>• Injury/illness.</li><li>• Olympic training.</li></ul>

7. **Next Steps.** The ERWG agreed to develop a survey based on the concepts noted above that would be sent to Division II presidents/chancellors, directors of athletics, senior woman administrators, senior compliance administrators, faculty athletics representatives, conference commissioners, conference senior woman administrators, and conference senior compliance administrators at active Division II institutions and conferences and provisional Division II institutions, for membership feedback. The working group was informed that the survey would be open from mid-April to May 1 so that it could review the feedback during its May videoconference. Finally, the working group was informed that the staff will present the concepts to several groups and committees in April and early May [Attachment].

8. **Future Meetings.**

- a. 2 to 4 p.m. Eastern time May 19.
- b. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time June 20.

*Working Group Chair: Audra Kedy, Great American Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Maritza Jones, Division II Governance*  
*Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*  
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NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group March 26, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Members in Attendance:</b>	
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.	
Paul Flores II, Azusa Pacific University.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University.	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University ( <i>ex officio</i> ).	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
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Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.
Deborah Rogers, Tuskegee University.
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University.
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.
<b>Guests:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support:</b>
Jeremy Christoffels, Rachel Denton, Terri Steeb Gronau, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Mariah Murdock, Angela Red, Katelyn Skarr, Jared Tidemann, Megan Villanueva and Jill Waddell.





## NCAA Division II Eligibility Review Working Group Spring 2025 Update

### **Background and Charge**

In early February, the NCAA Division II Management Council received a legal update regarding recent court cases in Division I regarding eligibility. The Management Council approved the Division II Legislation Committee and Academic Requirements Committee to perform a comprehensive eligibility review for Division II.

The Eligibility Review Working Group (ERWG) is a 25-member group composed of all members of the Division II Academic Requirements Committee and Legislation Committee as well as the chairs of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Management Council and Executive Board who serve as ex-officio, nonvoting members.

The review started with a focus on issues surrounding seasons of competition and period of eligibility. However, the ERWG is also reviewing feedback from the Division II governance structure and affiliated groups on any other areas that may be important to discuss due to the current landscape in intercollegiate athletics.

### **Division II Data Regarding Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility**

The ERWG reviewed Division II data regarding time to degree for Division II student-athletes who earned their bachelor's degree during the 2022-23 academic year, excluding 4-2-4 transfers. There were 14,160 unique graduates included in this analysis, 10,381 were non-transfers, 2,216 were four-year transfers, and 1,563 were two-year transfers.

Overall, 63% of these student-athletes graduated in four years or less. An additional 30% graduated in between four to five years and only seven percent took more than five years to graduate.

The working group also looked at differences between aided vs. nonaided student-athletes. Sixty-one percent of aided student-athletes took four years or less to graduate, while 68% of unaided student-athletes took four years or less.

When looking at differences between transfer student-athletes vs. non-transfers who graduated in 2022-23, nearly 73% of non-transfers graduated in four years or less. For four-year transfers, 81% graduated in five years or less and for two-year transfers, 79% graduated in five years or less. The largest proportion of two-year and four-year transfers took between four to five years to graduate.

When looking at time to degree by sport for 2022-23 graduates, every women's sport with 50+ graduates had the largest portion of graduates do so in exactly four years.

For men's sports with 50+ graduates, there is a much closer split between four years and four to five years to graduate. Football, wrestling, men's basketball and baseball had more than 10% of student-athletes take more than five years to graduate.

The working group also looked at student-athletes who exhausted their eligibility in the Academic Performance Census (APC) cohort from 2017-18 to 2022-23 and noted the following:

- Pre-COVID, the percentage of the overall student-athletes in the APC cohort who exhausted eligibility in a year was over 10% (with over 14% of all students in the 2018 cohort exhausting eligibility that year). In the most recent data (2023), less than 5% of student-athletes exhausted eligibility for the year.
- The number of first-year student-athletes in any cohort was at its lowest in 2022 at 27.2% after a steady decline of first years in the APC cohort. The percent of first years may be on the rise the further we move away from COVID eligibility. However, the most recent number of first years is still lower than pre-COVID enrollment at 29%.
- The percent of postgraduate student-athletes per year has increased. Pre-COVID, the percent of postgraduate student-athletes was less than 1% and it is at 4% in the most recent cohort.

The ERWG was also provided with membership feedback received from a recent survey regarding seasons competition and period of eligibility. Nearly three-quarters of respondents believe the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility rule is still appropriate, but 25% thinks that it is not. While 54% believed that five seasons of competition should be permissible, another 40% felt that four seasons was the appropriate benchmark, and only 2% supported six seasons.

The feedback was mixed on waivers and exceptions related to seasons of competition and period of eligibility. Sixty percent felt there should be permissible exceptions to using a season of competition; however, only 39% felt there should be exceptions to the period of eligibility.

Finally, most respondents agreed that competition at any two-year or four-year institution of higher education should count toward using a season of competition in Division II and towards the period of eligibility.

### **Guiding Principles for Eligibility Review Working Group**

The guiding principles below were used by the Eligibility Review Working Group to create concepts for potential changes to the eligibility rules (seasons of competition and period of eligibility) in Division II.

- Academics should be at the core of all decisions: the primary goal should be to help student-athletes obtain their first baccalaureate degree; earning more than one degree or a postgraduate degree is encouraged and meaningful, if eligibility remains.
- Use data and membership feedback to maximize opportunities for student-athletes to obtain a baccalaureate degree.

- Rules should be tied to higher education principles, which operate on a traditional period of time for a student's start to finish; therefore, Division II rules should include limits on seasons of competition and period of eligibility.
- Rules should be attainable for student-athletes.
- Rules should be sustainable over time.
- Rules should be clear, consistent, easy for student-athletes to understand and for administrators to apply.
- The need for waivers and exceptions should be limited if student-athletes have access to five seasons of competition and should be specific to the period of eligibility and not seasons of competition.
- Concepts were developed to be consistent with the Division II Life in the Balance Philosophy with the intent of looking at the eligibility of student-athletes going forward, rather than considering any retroactive application.

### **Concepts for Membership Feedback**

The ERWG has identified the four concepts below for broader membership feedback.

#### **Concept No. 1 – Status Quo**

##### **Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility:**

- Four seasons of competition.
- 10-semesters/15-quarters.

##### **Use of a Season - Types of Competition that Should Count as Use of a Season:**

- 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.
- For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete's participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.
- A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.

##### **Waivers - Seasons of Competition:**

- Hardship waiver.
- Season-of-competition -- competition while ineligible.
- Season-of-competition -- competition while eligible.

**Exceptions - Seasons of Competition:**

- Thirty percent rule during their initial year of collegiate enrollment (effective 8/1/25).
- Transfer from a non-Division II institution.
- Division III transfer.
- Two-year college scrimmages.
- Competition in the nonchampionship segment and spring football.
- Recognized foreign exchange/study abroad program.
- Alumni game, fundraising activity or celebrity sports activity.
- Preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmages.

**Waivers - Period of Eligibility:**

- Extension of eligibility.
- Waiver -- student-athlete who does not use a season of competition during initial year of collegiate enrollment.

**Exceptions - Period of Eligibility:**

- Pregnancy.

**Concept No. 2 - Four Seasons of Competition in Five Years**

**Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility**

- Four seasons of competition.
- Five-year consecutive clock following initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

**Use of a Season – Types of Competition that Should Count as Use of a Season**

- 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.
- For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete's participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.
- A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.

**Waivers – Seasons of Competition**

- Current waivers
  - Hardship waiver.
  - Season-of-competition -- competition while ineligible.
  - Season-of-competition -- competition while eligible.

**Exceptions – Seasons of Competition**

- Current exceptions.
  - Thirty percent rule during their initial year of collegiate enrollment (effective 8/1/25).

- Transfer from a non-Division II institution.
  - Division III transfer.
  - Two-year college scrimmages.
  - Competition in the nonchampionship segment and spring football.
  - Recognized foreign exchange/study abroad program.
  - Alumni Game, fundraising activity or celebrity sports activity.
  - Preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmages.
- Injury/illness.
- Military service.
- Olympic training.
- Religious mission.
- Pregnancy.

#### **Waivers – Period of Eligibility**

- Current waivers
  - Extension of Eligibility.
  - Waiver -- student-athlete who does not use a season of competition during initial year of collegiate enrollment.

#### **Exceptions – Period of Eligibility**

- Division I 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.
- Olympic training.

### **Concept No. 3 - Five Seasons of Competition in Five Years**

#### **Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility**

- Five seasons of competition.
- Five-year consecutive clock following initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

#### **Use of a Season – Types of Competition that Should Count as Use of a Season**

- 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.
- For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete's participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.
- A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.

- 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 segment, participation in an alumni game).

#### **Waivers – Seasons of Competition**

- No waivers.

#### **Exceptions – Seasons of Competition**

- No exceptions.

#### **Waivers – Period of Eligibility**

- Extenuating circumstances.

#### **Exceptions – Period of Eligibility**

- Division I 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.
- Olympic training.

### **Concept No. 4 - Five Seasons of Competition in 10-Semesters/15-Quarters**

#### **Seasons of Competition and Period of Eligibility**

- Five seasons of competition.
- 10-semester/15-quarters.

#### **Use of a Season – Types of Competition that Should Count as Use of a Season**

- 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.
- For transfers from non-Division II institutions, the student-athlete's participation is subject to the rules of the association/division of which the previous institution is a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.
- A Division III transfer who is charged a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not use a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.
- 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 segment, participation in an alumni game).

#### **Waivers – Seasons of Competition**

- No waivers.

### **Exceptions – Seasons of Competition**

- No exceptions.

### **Waivers – Period of Eligibility**

- Extenuating circumstances.

### **Exceptions – Period of Eligibility**

- Division I 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.
- Olympic training.

### **Next Steps**

It is anticipated that the working group will make final recommendations to the Management Council and Executive Board in summer 2025, followed by a possible membership vote at the 2026 NCAA Convention. To submit its final report and recommendations, the working group will continue to have regular videoconferences, as noted below.

April-May	Division II Coaches Connection groups receive updates on ERWG.
Mid-April	Membership Survey
April 14-15	Division II Management Council receives update and provides feedback.
April 16	Division II ADA board and CCA receive updates and provide feedback.
April 17	Division II CCACA receives update and provides feedback.
April 22	Division II Executive Board receives update and provides feedback.
April 24	Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee receives update and provides feedback.
May 15	Division II SAR committee receives update and provides feedback.
May 19	ERWG videoconference.
June 20	ERWG submits any recommendations to the Management Council and/or Executive Board.

September 1	Deadline for Management Council and/or Executive Board to sponsor proposals for a vote at the 2026 Convention.
Fall	Education regarding any Convention proposals.
January 2026	Division II membership vote at Convention.





REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS  
AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
DECEMBER 9, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative items.**
  - None.
2. **Nonlegislative items.**
  - None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Approval of Sept. 16-17, 2024, meeting report.** The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports approved the report of its September 2024 meeting.
2. **NCAA Chief Medical Officer briefing.** The CMO provided an overview of the Sport Science Institute's recent activities.
3. **Government Relations briefing.** CSMAS received a briefing about NCAA government relations, including an update on issues related to name, image and likeness.
4. **NCAA divisional governance updates.** CSMAS received a governance update from each of the divisions. CSMAS noted the final recommendations from the Division III Athletic Training Working Group and supported future efforts to amplify the recommendations.
5. **CSMAS subcommittee reports.**
  - a. **Administrative Subcommittee.**
    - (1) Subcommittee activity review. CSMAS received the reports of its Administrative Subcommittee videoconferences since September 2024.
    - (2) Sickle cell solubility testing. CSMAS noted recent issues discussed by the Administrative Subcommittee related to sickle cell solubility testing. Specifically, CSMAS received an update on the following discussions:
      - (a) In September, CSMAS referred the development of a response to an inquiry from the Association of Public Health Laboratories' Ethical, Legal, Social and Policy Issues Subcommittee regarding the use of

newborn screening results for documentation of sickle cell trait status to AdCom. In late fall, AdCom completed the response, and the APHL acknowledged receipt.

- (b) CSMAS noted AdCom's review of and determination that no additional action was necessary in response to a letter advocating for the NCAA to consider several initiatives in response to the recent death of a student-athlete with sickle cell trait. Specifically, it was noted that the NCAA has existing policy and legislation, guidance and reporting mechanisms for sickle cell trait that align with its constitutional responsibility. Additionally, CSMAS supported continued efforts around timely education of the membership on health, safety and performance topics and to continue discussing the best way CSMAS can support sports medicine professionals as they oversee healthcare administration and delivery on campus.
- (c) CSMAS noted AdCom's work to review existing NCAA educational columns on the application of sickle cell legislation. It is expected that AdCom will make a final recommendation, including a request for each of the divisions to issue a clarifying interpretation, for CSMAS to consider at its February 2025 meeting.

**b. Drug-Testing Subcommittee.**

- (1) Subcommittee activity review. CSMAS received the reports of its Drug-Testing Subcommittee videoconferences since September 2024.
- (2) Drug-test appeal process – Administrative review pathway and internal operating procedures. CSMAS approved revisions to the Drug-Test Appeal Subcommittee's internal operating procedures to clarify the scope and pathway for an administrative review following a student-athlete's positive drug test. Specifically, administrative review requests involving matters other than the student-athlete's responsibility for testing positive (e.g., misadvisement, eligibility status related to transferring, application of penalty, etc.) shall not qualify for a drug-test appeal reconsideration.
- (3) Drug-Testing Subcommittee charter. CSMAS approved an updated charter for the Drug-Testing Subcommittee.

- c. **Prevention and Performance Subcommittee.** CSMAS received the reports of its Prevention and Performance Subcommittee videoconferences since September 2024.
- d. **Research Subcommittee.**
  - (1) Subcommittee activity review. CSMAS received the reports of its Research Subcommittee videoconferences since September 2024.
  - (2) Injury Surveillance Data Request Program – Areas of emphasis 2024-25. CSMAS approved the areas of emphasis for research proposals submitted during phase one of the ISP Data Requests pilot, as recommended by the Research Subcommittee. The approved areas of emphasis are: (1) Elbow injuries in NCAA sports; (2) Non-contact injuries in NCAA sports; and (3) Lower-leg injuries in NCAA sports.

Phase one of the pilot program will open in January 2025 with several communications planned in advance of the opening (e.g., membership memo, NCAA.org story, SSI Newsletter, SSI Spotlight).

## 6. **Sports betting.**

Student-Athlete Sports Wagering Survey results. CSMAS received a preview of survey results from the 2024 NCAA National Study on Collegiate Wagering, which was administered during the 2023-24 academic year. Informed by the survey results, CSMAS continued its discussion of health, safety and wellbeing issues related to sports betting and the potential for deregulation of NCAA legislation. Specifically, CSMAS emphasized findings from the survey that demonstrated student-athletes are less likely to wager on sports if they receive education on the topic. CSMAS agreed that these findings support the importance of harm reduction strategies like providing resources and education on sports betting.

Additionally, CSMAS emphasized the importance of using stigma-reducing language when discussing sports betting, as significant stigma exists around self-reporting problem gambling, which can exacerbate harm.

- a. Legislative update. CSMAS received an update on the expected timeline of legislative recommendations on sports betting. It is expected the divisions will continue their discussions on deregulation during their January 2025 meetings.

**7. NCAA Advisory Groups.**

Training and Performance. CSMAS received an update on plans to hold a Performance Technology Summit during 2025. Specifically, CSMAS noted that outcomes from the summit would likely include the development of non-binding statements for consideration rather than binding recommendations like the recently updated Mental Health Best Practices. Notably, such considerations would not require membership attestation per the Division I Core Guarantees legislation.

- a. Mental Health. CSMAS noted its Mental Health Advisory Group will have its next videoconference on January 30, 2025. The Mental Health Advisory Group will discuss research and literature, review resources for consideration and begin review of the Substance Misuse Prevention Tool Kit, as directed by CSMAS.
- b. Concussion Safety. CSMAS noted its Concussion Safety Advisory Group will not meet in 2025, as there are no new developments warranting an update to the concussion safety protocol resources. Therefore, there will be no updates to the Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist for the 2025-26 academic year.

**8. Publication updates.**

- a. Substance Misuse Prevention and Intervention: An Athletics Tool Kit. CSMAS received an update regarding editorial changes to the Substance Misuse Prevention and Intervention: An Athletics Tool Kit. Specifically, editorial changes were made to update graphics and visuals, update terminology, remove outdated resources and transition access to current resources to the NCAA website.
- b. NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook. CSMAS received an update on the progress of revisions to the Sports Medicine Handbook. Specifically, it is expected the updated handbook will be available to the membership by summer 2025.

**9. Future meeting schedule.** CSMAS reviewed its future meeting dates.

**10. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Nadine Mastroleo, Binghamton University.  
*Staff Liaisons:* LaGwyn Durden, NCAA Sport Science Institute.  
Leilani Hubbard, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs.  
Anne Rohlman, NCAA Sport Science Institute.

NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports December 9, 2024, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Matt Barany, University of Richmond.	
Rhonda Beemer, Northwest Missouri State University.	
Leah Carey, Brown University.	
Timothy Coffey, Longwood University.	
Lee Dorpfeld, University of South Florida.	
Sarah Dowd, Michigan Technological University.	
Jack Entriiken, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.	
Deanna Hand, Houghton University.	
Richard Hendricks, Shorter University.	
Alan Hirahara, California State University, Sacramento.	
Josey Johnson, Otterbein University.	
Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University.	
Nadine Mastroleo, Binghamton University.	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University.	
Amanda Phillips, University of Louisiana at Lafayette.	
Jaime Potter, University of California, Irvine.	
Sarah Ramey, University of Texas Permian Basin	
Marie Schaefer, Cleveland State University.	
Leah Thomas, Georgia Institute of Technology.	
Jack Turban, University of California, San Francisco.	
Rich Wanninger, Patriot League.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Brad Anawalt, University of Washington.	
Bob Colgate, National Federation of State High School Association.	
Kenneth Ferguson, University of Missouri-Kansas City.	
Ryan Kelly, Rochester Institute of Technology.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>	
LaGwyn Durden, Leilani Hubbard and Anne Rohlman.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Laura Arnett, Geoff Bentzel, Dawn Buth, Deena Casiero, Amanda Dickey, Alicia Fine, Greg Johnson, Mallory Mickus, Leilyn Miles, John Parsons, Tom Paskus, Alex Purcell, Stephanie Quigg, Bill Regan, Michelle Robison, Crystal Rogers and Carey Wheelhouse.	



EXCERPT FROM THE REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS  
AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
FEBRUARY 17-18, 2025 VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

- **Interpretation and educational column on application of sickle cell legislation.**
  - (1) Recommendation. That each division issue the following: (1) An interpretation of sickle cell legislation to *determine* that only results from a sickle cell solubility test satisfy the requirements of NCAA legislation (see Attachment A); and (2) One combined and updated educational column to replace the six existing columns on sickle cell solubility testing (see Attachment B).
  - (2) Effective date. Immediate.
  - (3) Rationale. Recent inquiries prompted a review of existing guidance on sickle cell legislation, which revealed outdated guidance. These recommendations are a result of that review and are intended to increase clarity for the membership and more properly reflect the application of existing legislation.
  - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. Clarity will ensure sickle cell solubility legislation is applied consistently and accurately at all schools and for all student-athletes.

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**NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports  
Administrative Subcommittee  
Recommendation for Interpretation of Sickle Cell Legislation**

***Sickle Cell Solubility Test***

***Division: I, II, III***  
***Date Issued: 2025***  
***Item Ref: X***

***Interpretation:***

*The NCAA Division X Interpretations Committee **determined** that only results from a sickle cell solubility test satisfy the requirements of NCAA legislation. Results from other types of sickle cell screening do not meet the legislation.*

<i>Division I</i>	<i>Bylaw 17.1.5.1</i>	<i>Sickle Cell Solubility Test</i>
<i>Division II</i>	<i>Bylaw 17.1.5.1</i>	<i>Sickle Cell Solubility Test</i>
<i>Division III</i>	<i>Bylaws 17.1.6.4.1</i>	<i>Confirmation of Sickle Cell Trait Status</i>

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**NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND  
MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
Sickle Cell Solubility Test  
Recommended Question and Answer Document**

This document contains questions and answers designed to assist the membership in understanding the application of sickle cell solubility test legislation. This educational column replaces previous guidance, which should be archived: Division I June 03, 2010, and January 14, 2010; Division II January 05, 2012, January 15, 2014 (Question Nos. 6 & 7) and January 28, 2022; and Division III January 18, 2013 and January 25, 2022.

*\*New questions are highlighted in grey. Other question and answers have been combined from previous educational columns, while some questions and answers that no longer apply (e.g., written release) have been eliminated.*

**Question No. X:** Must every individual undergo sickle cell solubility testing prior to participating in physical athletically related activity or may documented results of a prior test meet the legislation?

**Answer:** Documented results of a prior sickle cell solubility test meet the legislation; however, if no documented results are available a sickle cell solubility test is required during the individual's mandatory medical exam.

**Question No. X:** The option for an individual to sign a waiver declining the sickle cell solubility test was eliminated on August 1, 2022. How does the legislation apply to an individual who signed a waiver prior to August 1, 2022?

**Answer:** An individual who signed a waiver declining confirmation of sickle cell trait status before August 1, 2022, would not be required to provide documented sickle cell solubility test results prior to participation.

**Question No. X:** Do screening types other than a sickle cell solubility test meet the legislation?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. X:** Is a question on the history form of the medical examination sufficient to determine an individual's sickle cell trait status?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. X:** May an individual sign a written release if documented results from a sickle cell solubility test are not available?

**Answer:** No.



**Question No. X:** Are individuals required to undergo sickle cell solubility testing each year prior to participating in physical athletically related activity?

**Answer:** No. Documented results from an individual's previous sickle cell solubility test may be used to meet the legislation.

**Question No. X:** May a school conduct or pay for a sickle cell solubility test as part of a medical examination during an individual's visit to campus to attend general orientation sessions conducted for all prospective students?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. X:** May an individual participate in physical athletically related activities while their sickle-cell solubility test results are pending?

**Answer:** In Divisions I and II, an individual may not participate in physical athletically related activities until the documented results of the individual's sickle-cell solubility test are available.

In Division III, an individual who has taken a sickle-cell solubility test but whose results are not yet confirmed, may participate in physical athletically related activities provided the individual engages in mandatory education regarding the risks, impact and precautions associated with sickle cell trait.

**Question No. X:** If a student-athlete refuses to be tested for the sickle cell trait due to religious reasons, may the school request a waiver?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. X:** Does the legislation apply to male practice players?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. X:** Must a school report sickle cell solubility test results to the NCAA?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. X:** How should an institution keep track of an individual's sickle cell trait status or written release status?

**Answer:** The method of maintaining medical record documentation is an institutional decision. At a minimum, athletics medical staff should have a copy in the individual's medical file.

**Question No. X:** Do all states and U.S. territories require screening for the sickle cell trait in newborns?

**Answer:** Yes. Many other countries also require screening for sickle cell trait in newborns. Please note, not all newborn screening includes a sickle cell solubility test, which is required to meet the legislation.

**Question No. X:** May results from the newborn screening process be used to meet the legislation?

**Answer:** Possibly. Importantly, newborn screening may not employ sickle cell solubility testing, which is required to meet the legislation. Additionally, states/countries may have specific rules regarding access to newborn screening results. If the individual's newborn screening employed sickle cell solubility testing and the documented results are available, then they may be used to meet the legislation.

**Question No. X:** Are individuals that test positive for the sickle cell trait disqualified from participating in athletics?

**Answer:** No. Test information should be used by school and other applicable medical staff to provide more individualized medical monitoring and care.

**Question No. X:** Does the sickle cell trait change in adulthood? Is it possible that someone who tests positive for the trait as an infant would no longer have the trait in adulthood?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. X:** What are the next steps/best practices if an individual tests positive for sickle cell trait?

**Answer:** If a test confirms the sickle cell trait, the individual should be offered counseling on the implications of sickle cell trait, including health, athletics participation and family planning. Knowledge of sickle cell trait status can be a gateway to education and simple precautions should be taken to minimize health issues among individuals with the sickle cell trait.

**Question No. X:** Where is more information on sickle cell trait?

**Answer:** Additional information and educational materials about sickle cell trait are available for student-athletes, coaches and athletics personnel at [www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/sickle-cell-trait](http://www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/sickle-cell-trait).



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ATHLETICS  
FEBRUARY 12, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- **Emerging Sports for Women – Women's Flag Football.**
  - (a.) Recommendation. 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.
  - (b.) Effective date. Immediate.
  - (c.) Rationale. 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.
  - (d.) Estimated budget impact. Will vary based on institutional decisions related to sponsorship.
  - (e.) Student-athlete impact. This recommended legislation will grow meaningful intercollegiate sport participation opportunities for female student-athletes.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** Committee on Women's Athletics chair Ragean Hill welcomed committee members to the videoconference and noted that Alia Scotka, a

student-athlete from the University of West Florida representing the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, has joined the committee.

2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its September 26, 2024, meeting.
3. **Women's flag football application status.** NCAA staff updated the committee on the documents submitted by RCX Sports Foundation and USA Football, the joint women's flag football applicants, including the competition schedules and letters of commitment from member schools currently sponsoring the sport. Committee members also were informed that the committee's subcommittee reviewing the women's flag football application met in December 2024 for an initial review and asked the applicants to provide additional scheduling documents to complete the application, since they were not available for the original deadline. The subcommittee reconvened in January 2025 to review the updated documents and unanimously endorsed that the committee recommend each division introduce legislation to add women's flag football to the Emerging Sports for Women Program. (See Action Item above.)
4. **2025 NCAA Convention recap.**
  - a. **Women's wrestling vote and next steps.** Staff shared that during the 2025 NCAA Convention the three divisions adopted women's wrestling as the NCAA's 91st championship and established an NCAA Women's Wrestling Committee. Staff further noted that the Women's Wrestling Committee will begin its work immediately to administer the first NCAA National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championship in the winter of 2026.
  - b. **New Association-wide committee update.** Staff provided an update on the adoption of legislation to establish a new Association-wide committee during divisional governance meetings held in conjunction with the 2025 Convention. The NCAA Board of Governors directed the divisions to adopt legislation to establish the new committee as part of its charge to review the purpose of Association-wide committees and streamline their operations when possible. The new committee is the result of the four current NCAA committees and taskforce collaborating to recommend a single, centralized Association-wide committee to address all matters related to supporting student-athlete opportunities.

Staff further highlighted the new committee's composition and the transition process of the new committee. The committee also discussed key issues the new committee should address when it begins meeting in fall 2025 and will finalize the list at its April 9 videoconference.

- c. **Educational sessions regarding women's sports.** Staff highlighted the three educational sessions held at the Convention on women's and emerging sports, including a featured session with administrators from institutions and conferences that sponsor emerging sports. The featured session focused on ways to expand new opportunities for women in intercollegiate athletics and the new storytelling features from the historic ESPN broadcast deal.

**5. Emerging sports program updates.**

- a. **Discussion and additional requests for the biannual review.** The committee reviewed the criteria emerging sports are required to meet and submit biannually for review during the committee's fall and spring meetings. The committee agreed the criteria remains relevant, with no additional information required.
- b. **Updates and next steps for sports in the five-year review.** Staff updated the committee on the three sports in the five-year review (equestrian, rugby and triathlon). Each of these sports has been in the program longer than five years and began their review in fall 2024 to provide the committee a better understanding of the challenges they are facing. In fall 2024, the committee provided feedback to each of the three sports and requested additional information from equestrian and rugby. The committee reviewed the three sports again, including the requested information that was provided, and clarified additional requests for equestrian and rugby for its final meeting in April. The committee also discussed the merits of the five-year review process and determined that it is useful and should be maintained.

**6. NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee updates.**

- a. **Division I.** The Division I SAAC representative updated the committee on the SAAC's recent meeting at the Convention during which members discussed how to mitigate the increasingly litigious environment in athletics and the potential deregulation of sports betting to allow betting on professional sports. The SAAC also continued reviewing various eligibility models (e.g., number of years) to consider whether to make a specific recommendation in the future.
- b. **Division II.** The Division II SAAC representative was not able to attend the videoconference.
- c. **Division III.** The Division III SAAC representative updated the committee on the SAAC's recent meeting at the Convention during which members elected new leadership within the committee and received updates from the SAAC's subcommittees and various staff. SAAC members also continued discussing the potential deregulation of sports betting to allow betting on professional sports.

7. **NCAA Woman of the Year update.** The committee received an update regarding the 2024 NCAA Woman of the Year that was awarded during the Convention. The recipient, Alexandra Turvey, is a 21-time All-American swimmer from Pomona-Pitzer Colleges who is pursuing a dual masters and Ph.D. as a medical researcher. For the first time, the NCAA Woman of the Year participated in a live interview on CBS Morning the day after she won the award. Staff also reviewed the process for selection of the 2025 Woman of the Year as the award transitions to oversight by the NCAA Honors Committee. To aid in the transition, some existing members of the award committee will serve on the Honors Committee through the 2026 NCAA Convention.
8. **Other business.**
  - a. **House settlement and landscape of collegiate athletics.** The committee received an update from NCAA legal counsel related to the House settlement and the other litigation affecting intercollegiate athletics. Thereafter, staff updated the committee on the current landscape and issues relevant to the committee's mission. Staff also noted that during the February Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee videoconference, MOIC expressed interest in collaborating with the committee and the Gender Equity Task Force to communicate to the Board of Governors and NCAA senior leadership the need to continue existing initiatives and programs that benefit all student-athletes. Staff noted that it will keep the committee apprised of this initiative and coordinate the effort as necessary in the coming weeks.
  - b. **Update on national office equity education and progress.** Staff updated the committee on processes underway within the national office to ensure equitable student-athlete experiences.
9. **Future meetings.** The committee will conduct its final meeting April 9 via videoconference and will meet jointly with the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee for the final time via a May 7 videoconference.
10. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Ragean Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.  
*Staff Liaisons:* Maison Hubbard, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.  
Ashlesha Lokhande, Office of Inclusion.  
Gretchen Miron, Office of Inclusion.

Report of the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics

February 12, 2025, Videoconference

Page No. 5

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NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics February 12, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Greg Bamberger, Fairmont State University.	
Sharief Hasim, Susquehanna University.	
Ragean Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.	
Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University.	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College.	
Gabriella Miller, Wisconsin Lutheran College (via videoconference).	
Michael Perez, California State University, Fullerton.	
Quinton Ross, Alabama State University.	
Chuck Sack, Neumann University.	
Tracy Shoemake, Texas State University (via videoconference).	
Sean Sullivan, Salve Regina University.	
Marion Terenzio, State University of New York at Cobleskill.	
Dawn Turner, Lander University.	
Betsey Walkowiak, University of Detroit Mercy.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Katherine Rowe Fell, University of Findlay.	
Alia Scotka, University of West Florida.	
Steve Stoute, Canisius College.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Maison Hubbard and Ashlesha Lokhande.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>	
Debbie Brown, Gail Dent, Niya Blair Hackworth, Ashley Hammers, Melody Lawrence, Kevin McColaugh, Jean Merrill, Leilyn Miles, Stephanie Quigg, Jennifer Roe, Joshua Perez Sales, Jeff Smith, Jared Tidemann and Amy Wilson.	



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February 13, 2025

Dear NCAA Division II Constituents,

I was thrilled to hear the exciting news that the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics is recommending that women's flag football be recognized by each division as an emerging sport. This announcement is a significant milestone in the advancement of this exciting opportunity for female student-athletes to compete in the sport of flag football.

On behalf of the eight institutions in Conference Carolinas that will compete in women's flag football at the varsity level in 2025-26, I am writing to you today to express my strong support for the Division II governance structure to approve women's flag football as an emerging sport effective with the 2025-26 academic year using the noncontroversial legislation tool.

While I am usually a proponent of convention legislation where all Division II members have the opportunity to vote on issues, I believe an expedited process is in the best interests of Division II in this case.

Given the attention women's flag football is receiving across the world (e.g., NFL, Olympics), from the leadership at the NCAA, and throughout NCAA member institutions, I do not anticipate any significant pushback on the approval of women's flag football – whether for 2025-26 or at the convention in January 2026.

Bringing women's flag football under the NCAA emerging sports umbrella will allow all competing institutions in the NCAA to play under one set of rules. This is important since the early growth of women's flag football was so fragmented that high schools across the country are still playing under a wide variety of playing rules. Ensuring that all NCAA institutions in Division II start off under a uniform set of rules will be important.

While there is clearly a financial benefit to Conference Carolinas (and the CIAA) to have emerging sport status in 2025-26, I also believe that establishing emerging sport status in 2025-26 will encourage other conferences to take a harder look at finding ways to sponsor the sport, which will further the growth of the sport.

On July 2, 2024, Conference Carolinas made the formal announcement that it was going to be the first NCAA Division I or II conference to sponsor women's flag football. We are a leader in the growth of women's flag football, and I felt it was important to go on record as strongly advocating for and supporting the approval of women's flag football as an emerging sport in Division II for the 2025-26 academic year.

If additional information is needed, please let me know. Conference Carolinas is ready to "Lead the Way" in this effort with Division II.

Sincerely,

Chris Colvin  
Commissioner







REPORT OF THE  
NCAA HONORS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 21, 2025, ELECTRONIC VOTE

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Committees – Association-Wide Committees – Honors Committee – Name, Composition and Duties – Woman of the Year Award.**
  - (1) Recommendation. That the three divisional legislative bodies sponsor and adopt 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 (3) Expand the duties of the committee to include oversight, management and selection of the Woman of the Year Award.
  - (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2025.
  - (3) Rationale. Currently, the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics oversees, manages, and selects the Woman of the Year Award. In January 2025, the three divisions adopted legislation to consolidate the four existing DEI committees/task force (including the Committee on Women's Athletics) into one comprehensive committee. The duties of the new committee do not include oversight of the Woman of the Year Award. Instead, it was agreed that the Honors Committee would best manage the Woman of the Year Award to increase consistency with the administration of other awards, such as the NCAA Gerald R. Ford Award and the Pat Summit Award. Further, the staff that supports the Honors Committee is well-versed on the Woman of the Year Award and will streamline support. In addition, amending the committee's composition by adding a former student-athlete who was a Woman of the Year nominee will provide valuable insight and input when evaluating nominations. The committee also noted that its work requires a significant time commitment making it difficult to attract and retain presidents or chancellors. Allocating one position to a senior-level athletics administrator from a school or conference will provide the committee with the experience and perspective of a senior campus or conference leader. Finally, renaming the Honors Committee to the Awards Committee reflects the work of the committee.
  - (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Costs associated with one additional committee member to attend the awards presentation at the NCAA Convention.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- None.

*Committee Chair:* Andrew Alia, Northeast Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Melody Lawrence, Communications  
Ashley Hammers, Communications  
Nora Loechel, Regulatory Affairs  
Russell Register, Regulatory Affairs

NCAA Honors Committee February 21, 2025, Electronic Vote	
<b>Participants:</b>	
Andrew Alia, Northeast Conference.	
John Griffin, Independent.	
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University.	
Nick Joos, Iowa State University.	
Christopher Lomax, Independent.	
Anthony Scola, North Park University.	
LaRee Sugg, University of Richmond.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons (or Staff Support if Subcommittee):</b>	
Melody Lawrence, Ashley Hammers, Nora Loechel and Russell Register.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES AND INTERESTS COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 10, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome, announcements and review of mission and duties.** The chair of the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee welcomed the group, including new members, DJ Guest Jr., student-athlete at California State University Dominguez Hills and Kristie Bowers, associate vice president and director of athletics, at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. After announcements, the committee reviewed its mission and duties.
2. **Review and approval of the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee September 26, and November 18, 2024, reports.** The committee approved reports from its September 26, 2024, meeting, and its November 18, 2024, electronic vote.
3. **NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee divisional updates.** SAAC representatives provided the committee with the following updates:
  - a. **Division I.** The Division I SAAC representative provided an update on Division I SAAC's most recent meetings and highlighted the committee's efforts to emphasize civic engagement in the 2024 election year.
  - b. **Division II.** The Division II SAAC representative provided an update on Division II SAAC's civic engagement efforts as well as the creation of new campus and conference SAAC best practices guides for membership use.
  - c. **Division III.** The Division III SAAC representative was unable to participate in the meeting; however, the representative provided a written update highlighting the engagement of new members on Division III SAAC and items to be considered during the committee's next meeting in April.
4. **NCAA Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign 2024 recap and 2025 outlook.** NCAA staff summarized the outcomes and engagement analytics from the 2024 Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign and discussed ways to maintain engagement throughout the three-day campaign in future years. Staff also highlighted potential themes under consideration for the 2025 campaign.
5. **Update on new NCAA Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (CDEIB).** NCAA staff noted that in January, the divisions adopted legislation to transition the committee and the Committee on Women's Athletics to one committee focused on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. Thereafter,

6. the committee discussed the current landscape, topics relevant to MOIC's mission, and key issues to recommend to the new committee for future review.
7. **Division I Senior Minority Administrator Working Group recommendations timeline and next steps.** NCAA staff reviewed the history of the SMA proposal, the establishment of the working group, and the working group's future recommendations. The committee will receive another update during its May videoconference.
8. **Athletics Diversity and Inclusion Designee (ADID) engagement.**
  - a. **Inclusion landscape.** NCAA staff shared how the inclusion landscape is impacting individuals with the athletics diversity and inclusion designation.
  - b. **Education modules.** NCAA staff noted that two new education modules will be available through the NCAA learning portal regarding how institutions can continue to foster cultures of belonging and wellbeing. A total of six to eight modules are expected to be completed by the fall of 2025.
  - c. **Division I – The ADID Experience.** NCAA staff shared that the NCAA Division I ADID Experience has changed to a Spring Summit. Individuals serving as an institution's primary liaison or administrator, whose role focuses on fostering environments of respect and belonging for all, are encouraged to attend the spring summit. NCAA staff further shared that the Spring Summit is open to representatives from all three divisions.
9. **Current issues and impact on intercollegiate athletics discussion.** The committee discussed topics affecting athletics and higher education on their campuses and the ongoing work to support all student-athletes, coaches and staff. The committee agreed to send a letter to the NCAA Board of Governors focusing on the need to continue existing initiatives and programs that advance inclusive excellence and wellbeing. The committee further agreed to extend the opportunity for the Committee on Women's Athletics and the Gender Equity Task Force to partner on the letter.
10. **2025 NCAA Convention recap.** NCAA staff summarized the relevant events and sessions that occurred during the 2025 NCAA Convention.
11. **MOIC Champions of Diversity and Inclusion update.** NCAA staff highlighted the MOIC Champions of Diversity and Inclusion selected in 2025. The committee agreed that the recognition program should continue to be a focus of the new Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

12. **Other business.** It was noted that the committee will conduct its final meeting May 6, followed by the final joint meeting with the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics May 7.
13. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Adam Hutchinson, Earlham College.  
*Staff Liaisons:* Niya Blair Hackworth, Office of Inclusion.  
Dee Kennedy, Enforcement.

NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee February 10, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University.	
Kristie Bowers, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.	
Hamilton Cook, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.	
Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University.	
DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills.	
Adam Hutchinson, Earlham College.	
Madison Matthews, University of Northern Illinois.	
Karla Meija, New Jersey City University.	
Tommye Robinson, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith.	
Megan Sanger, South Atlantic Conference.	
Ashlee Williams, Eastern University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.	
Christian Spears, Marshall University.	
Zulma Toro, Central Connecticut State University.	
Oliver Williams, Westfield State University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Niya Blair Hackworth and Dee Kennedy.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>	
Debbie Brown, Dawn Buth, Gail Dent, Ashlesha Lokhande, Felicia Martin, Jean Merrill, Leilyn Miles, Stephanie Quigg, Jennifer Roe, Joshua Perez Sales, Jared Tidemann, Shay Wallach and Amy Wilson.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL  
NOVEMBER 13, 2024, EMAIL VOTE

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- **NCAA Baseball Rules Committee Experimental Rules Requests.** The NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel approved two experimental rules for conference play only submitted by the Baseball Rules Committee, which included:
  - a. Use of bat sensor technology for in-game data collection.
  - b. Use of in-game data/technology in the dugout during a game.

*Committee Chair:* Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Stanley Broaden, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Jay Fitzwater, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Ashlee Follis, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Ty Halpin, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Connor Lancashire, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Andy Supergan, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating

NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel November 13, 2024, Email Vote Report	
<b>Respondents:</b>	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Joseph D'Antonio, Colonial Athletic Association.	
Robert Davenport, Oklahoma Baptist University.	
Brad Duckworth, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point.	
Richard Duran, University of the Incarnate Word.	
Chad Eisele, Hampden-Sydney College.	
Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference.	
Andrew Goodrich, Gardner-Webb University.	
Korinth Patterson, Mid-American Conference.	
Joe Schaly, Thiel College.	
Lexie Vernon, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.	
Brad Walker, America East Conference.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL  
JANUARY 22, 2025, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Keith Gill, chair of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, welcomed the panel and outlined the meeting schedule.
2. **Approval of September 6, 2024, and November 13, 2024, email reports.** PROP approved the September 6, 2024, and November 13, 2024, email reports as written.
3. **Review of excerpts from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel policies and procedures manual.** PROP reviewed its duties, the NCAA Conflict of Interest Statement and the 2014 directive to rules committees regarding the delayed implementation of rules changes with financial and/or facility impact. In addition, PROP reviewed the two-year rules process, which included reasons for considering rules changes in the off year.
4. **Review summary of significant, historical PROP actions.** PROP reviewed a document summarizing significant actions the panel has taken since 2003.
5. **Report from NCAA general counsel.** Jared Tidemann, NCAA director of legal affairs and senior counsel of government relations and sports administration, updated PROP on various legal matters.
6. **Report from the NCAA Sport Science Institute.** LaGwyn Durden, NCAA director of sports medicine, provided an overview of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Prevention and Performance Subcommittee, the injury surveillance program, and the performance technology summit that will be held in April 2025.
7. **NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee annual meeting report.** PROP reviewed and approved one experimental rule submitted by the Women's Volleyball Rules Committee to allow the head coach to request a challenge by forming a "C" with either hand instead of holding up the green challenge card. The experimental rule is effective during the 2025 women's volleyball championship season for conference matches only.
8. **Review Division III federated playing rules process.** PROP reviewed the Division III federated playing rules process, which included legislation adopted at the 2025 NCAA Convention that establishes a process by which Division III may consider federating sport-specific playing rules that have either a financial or philosophical impact for Division III institutions. [NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-4 (federated playing rules exemptions).] PROP recommended that one of its Division III members participate in meetings with the

Division III Management Council if it is considering exempting the division from a playing rule that has been approved by PROP.

9. **Review and discuss commercial logo rules for uniforms and playing surfaces.** PROP reviewed a summary of playing rules regarding commercial logos on uniforms and playing surfaces and determined that it would begin a comprehensive, deliberate review to consider potential amendments or adjustments to these rules. PROP agreed that a delineation should be made between uniforms and playing surfaces, and to solicit feedback from various constituent groups as it facilitates a review of these rules in the coming months.
10. **Review of sports using non-NCAA rules sources.** NCAA staff provided an overview of the 13 sports that currently do not have an NCAA published playing rules book or an NCAA playing rules committee. It was noted that PROP conducted a similar review in 2019, and that the rules process for these 13 sports mirrors the process used by the sports with playing rules committees. It was further noted that there is an exception to the process in that sport committees (the committees responsible for administering the sport's championship) have the authority to make modifications to the governing body's playing rules, which must be approved by PROP. This process includes a call for proposals, rules surveys, comment periods, and NCAA membership committees voting on rules modifications. PROP agreed that this process is working well and is consistent with sports that have a rules committee. PROP agreed that a review of sports using non-NCAA rules sources occur every three years and that these sports have a central hub for educating and training officials.
11. **Review of penalties for illegal participation by suspended players and coaches.** PROP reviewed a summary of playing rules regarding forfeits, appeals, protests, suspensions, and penalties for illegal participation by suspended players and coaches. There are only two sports, soccer and softball, that currently have penalties for illegal participation by suspended players or coaches. PROP agreed that all playing rules should include a penalty for this type of illegal participation, and directed all rules committees to review, and add a penalty to, its playing rules regarding suspensions to address illegal participation by suspended players and coaches.
12. **Update on NCAA officiating initiatives.** Ben Brownlee, NCAA associate director of officiating, provided an update on NCAA officiating initiatives, including the following: the "Become an Official" toolkit; the officiating reform initiative through RefQuest (RQ+); the NCAA umpire prospect camp; the NCAA "Elevate Respect" learning modules; and the alliance with RefReps to provide a comprehensive sports officiating education curriculum, training materials, and resources for 15 sports to be taught in the collegiate classroom.
13. **Planning for 2025.** PROP reviewed and approved sport assignments and videoconference dates for 2025.
14. **Other business.** PROP did not have other business.
15. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m. Eastern time.



Report of the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel

January 22, 2025, Meeting

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*Committee Chair: Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Stanley Broaden, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Jay Fitzwater, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Ashlee Follis, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Ty Halpin, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Connor Lancashire, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating*

NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel January 22, 2025, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Joseph D'Antonio, Coastal Athletic Association.	
Robert Davenport, Oklahoma Baptist University.	
Brad Duckworth, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.	
Richard Duran, University of Incarnate Word.	
Chad Eisele, Hampden-Sydney College.	
Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference.	
Andrew Goodrich, Gardner-Webb University.	
Korinth Patterson, Mid-American Conference.	
Joe Schaly, Thiel College.	
Lexie Vernon, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.	
Brad Walker, America East Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Stanley Broaden, Jay Fitzwater, Ashlee Follis, Ty Halpin, Connor Lancashire and Rachel Seewald.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Ben Brownlee, LaGwyn Durden, Anthony Holman, Greg Johnson, Stephanie Quigg and Jared Tidemann.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 28, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**KEY ITEMS.**

- None.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome.** The chair convened the meeting and welcomed the committee.
2. **Report of the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee meeting.** The committee approved the report of its July 12, 2024, meeting.
3. **Review of scholarship extension request.** The committee reviewed and denied the scholarship extension request. The committee encouraged the recipient to reapply next year if needed.
4. **Review of policy and procedures.** The NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee reviewed two policy changes and approved the following recommendations to revise the Postgraduate Committee's policies and procedures.
  - a. Recipients may only use scholarship funds for the academic year they were awarded for and may not be applied to past balances.
  - b. Letters of recommendation are not required to be submitted on institutional letterhead; however, the recommendation must include a typed signature, title, and phone number of the endorser.
5. **Review of postgraduate scholarship applications.** The committee reviewed 96 fall sports applications (31 men and 65 women). The committee awarded 21 postgraduate scholarships for participants in men's sports and 21 postgraduate scholarships for participants in women's sports

*Committee Chair:* John Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Lori Thomas, Administrative Services

NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee February 28, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Donnie Brooks, Macalester College.	
John Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University.	
David Pearson, California Baptist University.	
Heather Ryan, Duke University.	
Lisa Swope, St. Francis University (Pennsylvania).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Kelcy McKenna, University of Wisconsin-Madison.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>	
Lori Thomas.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
None.	

**2025 Division II Membership Survey**  
**Summary of Results**

Earlier this year, the membership was asked to complete the 2025 Division II Membership Survey. The previous survey was completed by the membership in 2018. The 2025 survey was different than the 2018 version, so only a few questions are comparable, and we've provided comparisons where applicable.

The survey was the final phase of information gathering to receive membership input prior to the division finalizing the 2026-32 Division II Operating Plan.

Committees in the Division II governance structure began reviewing the results of the survey this spring and will continue through the summer.

**Highlights from the 2025 Division II Survey Results:**

1. Top characteristics of Division II most valued by chancellors/presidents and directors of athletics:

<b>Presidents/Chancellors</b>	<b>Directors of Athletics</b>
Membership/conference stability	Membership/conference stability
Grants and scholarships	Number of opportunities for participation in NCAA national championships
Community engagement	Revenue distribution
Revenue distribution	Partial-scholarship model

2. Highest priority for future budget allocations and uses of new revenue as stated by presidents/chancellors and directors of athletics:

<b>Priority No.</b>	<b>Presidents/Chancellors</b>	<b>Directors of Athletics</b>
1	Revenue distribution to schools	Championships enhancements
2	Revenue distribution to conferences	Championships per diem
3	Branding/marketing	Revenue distribution to schools
4	Championships enhancements	Student-athlete programming
5	Grants for athletic training	Revenue distribution to conferences

3. Seventy-six percent of athletics directors indicate that they report directly to the president/chancellor (up from 65% in 2018) and 71% of athletics directors indicate that they are a member of the president's/chancellor's senior management team (up from 52% in 2018).
4. Sixty-nine percent of athletics directors (down slightly from 71% in 2018) indicated that they have a written and documented strategic plan for athletics.

5. Some respondents are concerned about the status of Division II within the NCAA. A much larger proportion are worried about the current status of intercollegiate athletics overall. However, both sets of percentages indicating concern are up from the 2018 survey.
6. Though most respondents did not believe Division I, Division II and Division III are appropriate names for the groupings of universities and colleges, there is little interest in the division pursuing a name change either on its own or with Division I and Division III.
7. Across all athletics staff, few agree or strongly agree that their school has allocated a sufficient operating budget and sufficient staffing for the overall athletics department, athletics academic support, athletics communications, athletic training and athletics compliance.
8. Among all response groups, it was stated that in general student-athlete participation in athletically related activities (e.g., practice, competition) each week was “just right.” These responses will be compared in fall 2025 to student-athlete responses collected in the 2025 GOALS data.
9. There was strong agreement across all institutional staffing groups that the institution supports the educational mission of college athletics by fostering a balanced approach to academic pursuits, civic engagement and athletics competition.
10. Athletic training and mental health/wellness were rated the highest among the categories that would be beneficial for the school to receive grants and funding from the NCAA.
11. There is disagreement between athletic trainers and athletics directors on whether the person responsible for scheduling practices consults with the head athletic trainer about the scheduling of student-athlete practices and competitions.
12. The top two reasons selected by both athletic trainers and athletics directors for the departure of athletic trainers are salary and working 40+ hours and weekends.
13. Ninety-three percent of athletic trainers indicate that they are given little notice (less than 48 hours) to scheduling changes for practice and competition for reasons other than inclement weather.
14. The two most important variables for athletic trainers when searching for a position are salary and staff culture.
15. Championships bracket changes to minimize first-round conference opponents, expansion of bracket/field size for championships, funding to ensure the No. 1 seed in the region has the opportunity to host, and per diem were indicated as the top priorities for resource allocations.

16. Among all athletics department groups, there is little support for the current Division II regionalization model for national championships (e.g., teams selected and bracketed regionally).
17. There is stronger support from athletics directors (63%) and conference office staff (86%) than other athletics staff to use a results-based metric as the only tool for selecting teams for championships.
18. The top priority for the championships bracketing review is unclear given the feedback is mixed between avoiding first-round conference matchups and ensuring the top teams (e.g., top eight nationally ranked teams) do not play each other. However, there is strong support among all response groups for switching seed lines to avoid first-round conference matchups.
19. The most used streaming platforms by institutions and conferences are Hudl, FloSports, and SIDEARM Sports. Additionally, the results are mixed whether web streams are free, under a pay-per-view or subscription model, or charge for select sports.

	Director of Athletics	Conference Office Staff
All web streams are available for free	52%	39%
Pay-per view or subscription model is used	41%	42%
Only charge for select sports	7%	18%

20. Only 19% of athletics directors indicated that their athletics department currently uses an artificial intelligence (AI) application to support operations with 63% of those using it to support game day summaries/stories on the website. For those not currently using AI, 48% indicated that they are considering using an AI application in the near future.
21. There is support, particularly among presidents/chancellors (91%) and athletics directors (94%) in the one-school, one-vote model for deciding legislative proposals.
22. Coaches are more likely to respond that they do not understand the current governance process or believe it accomplishes the goals and business of the division in comparison to other groups.
23. There is little support among all response groups for the division to consider moving away from its current process that includes considering legislation every year versus considering legislation every other year. Additionally, there is little support to move to a virtual format for the annual NCAA Convention.
24. Across all groups, there is agreement that the current requirements (eight schools) to be considered an active Division II conference and the minimum number of sports a Division II school must sponsor (10 sports) to be considered an active member school are appropriate.

### Discussion Questions Division II Survey Results

During the April 14-15 meeting, the Division II Management Council will review the results of the Division II survey as the division continues to develop the Division II Operating Plan. The survey was the final phase of information gathering to receive membership input prior to the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee drafting initiatives, timelines and funding priorities for final approval by the Management Council and Division II Executive Board.

Research is finalizing the PowerPoint presentation that will be shared April 14-15. In preparation for the council's review, we are sending some questions to review in advance, so you have this information to consider while reviewing the results during the meeting.

Following the review of the survey results on Monday, April 14, the Management Council will break into three groups on Tuesday, April 15 and discuss the questions noted below. Please note that the Management Council is not being asked to find answers to these questions, rather the intention is to determine whether to add some of these issues to the Division II operating plan for continued focus by the division.

#### Division II Philosophy

1. Membership/conference stability is frequently cited as being a key characteristic of the division, yet the current uncertainty within athletics and higher education overall could be disruptive in that regard. Are there any steps to be taken that would protect our stability?

Note: There's a question in the Athletics Operations section that is relevant, as respondents were more likely to be concerned about the current state of college sports overall more so than the current state of Division II.

2. The SPFC is currently reviewing the percentage of budget allocations to championships (currently at about 63%). Do any of these responses support increasing that allocation? What other areas should be a focus for budget allocation?
3. Any other observations in this section?

#### Athletics Operations

1. The Division I, II and III labels were raised as a major concern during the Think Tank, and the Roman Numeral II is frequently cited as hindering the Division II brand. Yet the survey responses do not indicate a strong desire to change. Should we drop this idea or keep thinking about it?
2. Response rates are low regarding sufficient budget and staffing – is that just the nature of the beast in which everyone would like to have more or is there something more problematic here?

3. The mental wellness questions again stand out. Conference staff responses are much lower than the institutional responses. Any reason for this? Thoughts and ideas for how the division can focus on mental wellness?
4. The survey responses indicate that individuals and student-athletes learn best through in-person training, speakers and workshops. What priorities or funding may be available to assist schools with their educational efforts?
5. Any other observations in this section?

### **Athletics Healthcare on Campus**

1. Athletic training stands out as a concern in this area. In particular, there appears to be a significant disconnect in communication between coaches and athletic trainers when it comes to practice schedule changes. Is there anything we can do to mitigate this issue?
2. More than three-fourths of ADs and athletic trainers believe the trainer-to-athlete ratio is inappropriate on their campus. Ideas on how the division can help in this area?
3. Sport medicine culture-staff morale was the number one reason for staying at their current institution according to athletic trainers. Further, salary and staff culture are the two most important variables when searching for a position. How can the division do even better to assist with culture?
4. Any other observations in this section?

### **Championships**

1. Minimizing conference matchups in the preliminary rounds surfaced as a priority in bracketing. In fact, a high percentage of respondents were OK with adjusting seed lines to do this, which is contrary to when the Regionalization Working Group explored this issue several years ago. Do we think avoiding conference matchups has risen to being the top priority now regardless of how it is accomplished? What about ensuring the top teams (nationally ranked) do not play each other in the early rounds?
2. Percentages were 50% plus on the agreement that regionalization in championships is satisfied at the time of selections. Do we believe institutions still want to play a regional schedule during the regular season?
3. Any other observations in this section?

### **Governance**

1. Coaches were consistently lower on questions about understanding the governance structure and communication regarding issues. Given the success of the Coaches



Connection program, what do we make of this? Other ideas for the division to consider on how to educate coaches?

2. Any other observations in this section?

### Election to Fill the Conference Carolinas' Vacancy

David Hicks, former vice president for athletics at King University, and Conference Carolinas' representative on the Division II Management Council, has resigned from the Management Council.

The Management Council will conduct an election to replace David during its April 14-15, 2025, meeting. This appointment would be effective immediately upon ratification by the Division II Executive Board and will run through the adjournment of the 2029 NCAA Convention.

Attached are the Conference Carolinas' slate, as well as each of the nominees' information forms, and a ballot for the vote.

In addition, below is the representation by Gender, Ethnic Diversity and Valued Positions before and after the vacancy.

#### Representation by Gender, Ethnic Diversity and Valued Positions before Vacancy:

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Position</u>
9	Director of athletics
7	Senior woman administrators
7	Faculty athletics representatives
3	Conference administrators
1	Other
2	SAAC representatives

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Gender/Ethnic Diversity</u>
13	Males
16	Females
8	Ethnic minorities

#### Representation by Gender, Ethnic Diversity and Valued Positions after Vacancy:

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Position</u>
8	Director of athletics
7	Senior woman administrators
7	Faculty athletics representatives
3	Conference administrators
1	Other
2	SAAC representatives

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<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Gender/Ethnic Diversity</u>
12	Males
16	Females
8	Ethnic minorities



NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
CONFERENCE NOMINATION FORM

*DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS*

Individual Nominated Jennifer Bell  
Institution Converse  
E-Mail jennifer.bell@converse.edu Phone Number 8649581602

In order to assist the appointing bodies in assuring diversity of membership on NCAA committees, please indicate if this nominee is an ethnic minority. ☐ Yes ☒ No

*SENIOR WOMAN ADMINISTRATOR*

Individual Nominated Christina Chow  
Institution UNC Pembroke  
E-Mail Christina.Chow@uncp.edu Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

In order to assist the appointing bodies in assuring diversity of membership on NCAA committees, please indicate if this nominee is an ethnic minority. ☒ Yes ☐ No

*FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE*

Individual Nominated Charlie Ottinger  
Institution Barton  
E-Mail crottinger@barton.edu Phone Number 252-399-6534

In order to assist the appointing bodies in assuring diversity of membership on NCAA committees, please indicate if this nominee is an ethnic minority. ☐ Yes ☒ No

*CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR (OPTIONAL)*

Individual Nominated Chris Colvin  
Institution Conference Carolinas  
E-Mail chris@conferencecarolinas.com Phone Number 864-567-1676

In order to assist the appointing bodies in assuring diversity of membership on NCAA committees, please indicate if this nominee is an ethnic minority. ☐ Yes ☒ No

**Note: To submit additional nominees, the conference's overall slate must include one person of color and two women. Additional nominees may include individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics, including but not limited to a vice president, athletic trainer, assistant/associate/deputy director of athletics, and/or other individuals involved in the administration of athletics. Additional nominees may not be a full-time coach.**

*ADDITIONAL NOMINEE (OPTIONAL)*

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

In order to assist the appointing bodies in assuring diversity of membership on NCAA committees, please indicate if this nominee is an ethnic minority. ☐ Yes ☐ No  
-----

*ADDITIONAL NOMINEE (OPTIONAL)*

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

In order to assist the appointing bodies in assuring diversity of membership on NCAA committees, please indicate if this nominee is an ethnic minority. ☐ Yes ☐ No  
-----

I hereby certify that these individuals have been nominated by the \_\_\_\_\_  
Conference Carolinas  
(conference name)

to represent its members on the Division II Management Council and the individuals have been contacted to confirm their willingness to serve on the Management Council.

**Chris Colvin**

Digitally signed by Chris Colvin  
Date: 2025.03.14 14:14:36 -04'00'

Conference Commissioner

3-14-25

**Dr. Herbert L. King**

Digitally signed by Dr. Herbert L. King  
Date: 2025.03.14 15:04:42 -04'00'

Chief Executive Officer within the Conference

3-14-25

Date

Date

Please forward by Wednesday, March 19, to Maritza Jones, managing director of Division II, in care of Jill Waddell, coordinator of Division II  
via e-mail at [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org).



SUPPLEMENT NO. 41  
DII Management Council 04/25

**NCAA Division II Management Council  
Committee and Project Team Assignments for 2025**

*(Mentor assignments are listed in italics below new Management Council members' names)*

<b>Management Council Representative (Mentor)</b>	<b>Committees/Project Teams</b>
Femi Alao	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee
Jackie Armstrong <i>(Femi Alao)</i>	Division II Legislative Relief Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Kristy Bayer	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Degree-Completion Awards Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee
Patrick Britz	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Nominating Committee
Bennett Cherry	Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Carlin Chesick	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee
Peter Crabb	Division II Management Council Liaison to the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee
Jeremy Elliott	Division II Management Council Subcommittee (chair) NCAA Walter Byers Scholarship Committee
Jennifer Flowers <i>(Kristy Bayer)</i>	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee
Eric Gobel <i>(David Hansburg)</i>	Division II Academic Requirements Committee Division II Management Council Liaison to Division the II Athletics Directors Association (ADA)
Theresa Grosbach	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Kim Hancock	NCAA Honors Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team
David Hansburg	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Committee on Infractions
Jerry Haywood	Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee
Avery Hellmuth	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
<del>David Hicks</del>	<del>Division II Infractions Appeals Committee</del> <del>Division II Management Council Liaison to College Sports Communicators</del>
George Knox <i>(Vaughn Williams)</i>	Division II Academic Requirements Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee

Management Council Representative ( <i>Mentor</i> )	Committees/Project Teams
Erin Lind, <i>vice chair</i>	Division II Administrative Committee Division II Championships Committee ( <i>ex officio</i> ) Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee ( <i>ex officio</i> ) Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee Division II Management Council Liaison to the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA)
Katherine Loh	NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Cindy McKnight	Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Membership Committee
Sandee Mott	Division II Legislation Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
Kristina Ortiz	Division II Convention Planning Project Team ( <i>chair</i> ) Division II Legislation Committee
Roberta Page, <i>chair</i>	NCAA Board of Governors ( <i>ex officio</i> ) Division II Administrative Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Bo Pagliasotti	NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
Sarah Ramey	Management Council Liaison to Women Leaders in Sports NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports
Darius Satterfield	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Rubin Stevenson	Division II Nominating Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Christina Whetsel	Division II Membership Committee Division II Management Council Liaison to National Association for Athletics Compliance (NAAC) Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
Vaughn Williams	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Liaison to the Minority Opportunities Athletics Association (MOAA)

Management Council Subcommittee chairs:

- Appeals of Membership Committee decisions on provisional membership status: Jeremy Elliott
- Appeals of Academic Requirements Committee decisions on waivers involving the Academic Performance Census and the Academic Success Rate: Christina Whetsel
- Appeals of Legislative Review Subcommittee decisions involving the amateur status of prospective student-athletes: Jerry Haywood
- Appeals of Championships Committee decisions: Bo Pagliasotti

**Vacancies:**

- Division II Infractions Appeals Committee
- Division II Management Council Liaison to College Sports Communicators



## **NCAA Active Membership – Eligibility Requirements – Types of Institutions – Review of Regional Accreditation Requirement**

### **Issue:**

Whether the divisions should 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.

### **Background of Accreditation:**

The purpose of accreditation for institutions of higher education is to evaluate the quality and integrity of the education being offered at a college or university. While the accreditation process is voluntary and must be requested by an institution of higher education, under the Higher Education Act of 1965, accreditation is required for schools to participate in federal education programs including Pell Grants and Direct Loans.

There are three general categories of accrediting agencies for institutions of higher education: (1) Regional accreditation; (2) National accreditation; and (3) Specialty or Programmatic accreditation. Regional and national accreditations apply to an entire institution, while specialty or programmatic accreditations only apply to a particular program(s) at a college or university. In addition, regional accrediting agencies typically concentrate on specific regions of the country. Whereas national accrediting agencies typically serve schools with a common theme (e.g., faith-based or career-related), and specialty or programmatic accrediting agencies review education programs and specialized, single-purpose institutions (e.g., engineering; technology).

While there are three general categories of accrediting agencies, the Higher Education Act of 1965 was amended in 2020 to no longer categorize accrediting agencies as regional or national. Instead, the HEA uses an umbrella term to refer to such accrediting agencies as institutional accreditors. This change was made as the U.S. Department of Education holds all accrediting agencies to the same standards; therefore, distinctions between regional and national accreditation are no longer necessary. Currently, the U.S. Department of Education only distinguishes between institutional and programmatic accrediting agencies. However, some state laws and regulations distinguish between regional and national accrediting agencies. (See Attachment for a list of accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.)

### **NCAA Review of Accreditation:**

Prior to the adoption of the new NCAA Constitution in 2022, the membership requirement for regional accreditation was set forth in Constitution 3.2.3.3 as a common provision. A common provision is a rule that applies to more than one division of the Association. Changes to a common provision must be adopted by each division, acting separately pursuant to the respective divisional legislative process, for the change(s) to be effective. The membership reviewed the common provision/requirement in 1956, 1979, 1980 and most recently in the early 2010's. In each review,



the membership affirmed that accreditation by one of the six regional accrediting agencies is required for NCAA membership.

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. [See Division I Bylaws 20.1.1 (general) and 20.2.1.1 (types of institutions) and 20.2.3.2 (accreditation), Division II Bylaws 7.1.4.1.1 (types of institutions) and 7.1.4.1.2 (accreditation) and Division III Bylaws 20.8.1.1 (types of institutions) and 20.8.3.2 (accreditation and division classification)]. Therefore, each division has the autonomy to determine the membership requirement for accreditation of active institutions.

### **Next Steps and Options for Consideration:**

Considering the change to the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding the categorization of accrediting agencies, the divisions should consider whether they should amend the membership requirement regarding regional accreditation to specify that an active member institution must have an 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. This change would result in an expansion of the accreditation requirement to be a member of the NCAA and the respective division. The current membership requirement of regional accreditation for active institutions remains appropriate under the Higher Education Act of 1965, if the division elects to make no changes.

Options for consideration by each division are as follows:

1. No change to the divisional requirement for an active member institution to be accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies.
2. Refer the issue to another governance body in the divisional governance structure for review and consideration of a potential legislative change.
3. Recommend sponsorship of legislation to specify that an active member institution must have an 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.
4. Other to be determined by each division.

**Agency List of U.S. Department of Education Database of Accredited  
Postsecondary Institutions and Programs**

**Regional Accrediting Agencies**

Higher Learning Commission	Active
Middle States Commission on Higher Education	Active
Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools	Active
New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Technical and Career Institutions	Inactive
New England Commission of Higher Education	Active
New York State Board of Regents, State Education Department, Office of the Professions (Public Postsecondary Vocational Education, Practical Nursing)	Active
North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Board of Trustees	Inactive
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities	Active
Oklahoma Board of Career and Technology Education	Active
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education	Inactive
Pennsylvania State Board of Vocational Education, Bureau of Career and Technical Education	Active
Puerto Rico State Agency for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational, Technical Institutions and Programs	Active
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges	Active
WASC Senior College and University Commission	Active
Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges	Active
Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools	Inactive

**Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies**

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges	Active
Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training	Active
Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools	Active
Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools, Accreditation Commission	Active
Association of Institutions of Jewish Studies	Active
Council on Occupational Education	Active
Distance Education Accrediting Commission	Active
New York State Board of Regents, and the Commissioner of Education	Active
The Association for Biblical Higher Education, Commission on Accreditation	Active
Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission	Active

**Specialized (Programmatic) Accrediting Agencies**

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics *	Active
Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine *	Active
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. – May 6, 2013 Formerly: National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission *	Active

Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education *	Active
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	Active
Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools *	Active
American Academy for Liberal Education *	Inactive
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education	Inactive
American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar *	Active
American Board of Funeral Service Education, Committee on Accreditation *	Active
American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation	Active
American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education	Active
American Optometric Association, Accreditation Council on Optometric Education	Active
American Osteopathic Association, Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation *	Active
American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	Active
American Podiatric Medical Association, Council on Podiatric Medical Education *	Active
American Psychological Association, Commission on Accreditation	Active
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology	Active
American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education	Active
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., Accreditation Commission	Active
Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education	Inactive
Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools *	Active
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	Active
Commission on English Language Program Accreditation *	Active
Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation *	Active
Commission on Opticianry Accreditation	Inactive
Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs *	Active
Council on Education for Public Health	Active
Council on Naturopathic Medical Education	Active
Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology *	Active
Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology	Inactive
Kansas State Board of Nursing	Active
Liaison Committee on Medical Education	Active
Maryland Board of Nursing	Active
Midwifery Education Accreditation Council *	Active
Missouri State Board of Nursing	Active
Montana State Board of Nursing	Inactive
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education *	Active
National Accrediting Commission of Career Arts and Sciences, Inc. *	Active
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, Council on Accreditation	Inactive
National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Commission on Accreditation *	Active

National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation *	Active
National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation *	Active
National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation *	Active
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education	Inactive
New York State Board of Regents, State Education Department, Office of the Professions (Nursing Education)	Active
North Dakota Board of Nursing	Active
Teacher Education Accreditation Council, Accreditation Committee	Inactive
The Council on Chiropractic Education, Commission on Accreditation *	Active

\* Indicates a specialized accrediting agency that is recognized for the accreditation of freestanding, single purpose institutions in addition to the accreditation of specialized programs at larger institutions.

List available at the following website: [View Agencies](#)

## Review of Sports Wagering Legislation April 2025

### Background

During the April 2024 meetings, the Division I Council, Division II Management Council and Division III Management Council discussed initial considerations for a review of the NCAA sports wagering legislation. The groups generally agreed that the sports wagering legislation should remain as common provisions for all three divisions. A common provision means that any changes to the legislation must be adopted by all three divisions to become effective. Maintaining the legislation as common facilitates the administration of enforcement, educational efforts, and efforts to work with legal gambling entities.

Initial feedback indicated that it was appropriate to conduct a thorough review of all the elements of the sports wagering legislation. The review included the definition of sports wagering and the scope of application of the prohibition on sports wagering.

Several concepts were considered and based on divisional discussions, it was determined that the three divisions should focus on permitting student-athletes, athletics department and conference office staff members to wager, as permitted by law and through legal and regulated methods, on any professional athletics activity. Therefore, it would be permissible for student-athletes and staff members to wager on any professional sport, including those sponsored by the NCAA, such as basketball, football, baseball and ice hockey. In addition, it would be permissible for student-athletes and staff to wager on elite international events such as the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World Championships and World Cup because such events include the participation of professional athletes.

According to US Olympic and Paralympic Committee policy on sports wagering, athletes, coaches and other covered individuals who participate in the Olympic games and other elite events are not allowed to engage in sports betting activities related to competitions that fall within the Olympic Games, Olympic Winter Games, the Paralympic Games, the Paralympic Winter Games, the Pan American Games, and the Parapan American Games; or any National Governing Body or International Qualifying Competition.

Finally, responsive to the councils' request and consistent with prioritizing student-athlete well-being, the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) has approved a resource regarding harm reductions strategies which will be available to the membership in May. A draft of that document is attached.

### Next Steps for Each Division

#### **Division I**

The Division I Board of Directors will consider recommendations from the Board of Directors Administrative Committee that legislation should be considered to deregulate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports and that concepts of a safe harbor, limited immunity or reduced

penalties should be explored for student-athletes who engage in sports wagering but seek help for problem gambling.

If the recommendation to consider legislation is supported by the Board of Directors, the Division I Council would consider expedited legislation in June.

If the recommendation to explore concepts of safe harbor, limited immunity or reduced penalties is supported, concepts could be provided to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement to begin a review in May.

Timeline.

Date	Meeting/Deadline	Discussion and Deliverables
April 15-16	Council meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on Board Administrative Committee recommendation.</li></ul>
April 21	Board of Directors meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consideration of Administrative Committee recommendation.</li></ul>
May 15	Council meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update and possible notice of expedited legislation to be considered in June.</li></ul>
June 24-25	Council meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possible consideration of expedited legislation.</li><li>• Possible review of safe harbor concepts.</li></ul>
August 1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possible effective date of legislation if not immediate upon adoption by all three divisions.</li></ul>

**Division III**

The Division III Management Council will be asked to consider noncontroversial legislation in concept in April to deregulate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports. If the recommendation to deregulate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports is supported by the other divisions, the Management Council will act on the legislation in legislative format (final decision) in July.

The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement could review concepts of safe harbor, limited immunity or reduced penalties in May.

Timeline.

Date	Meeting/Deadline	Discussion and Deliverables
April 14-15	Management Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider noncontroversial legislation in concept.</li></ul>
April 22	Presidents Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Status update.</li></ul>
July 21-22	Management Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If Division I adopts legislation, consider noncontroversial legislation in legislative format.</li></ul>

Date	Meeting/Deadline	Discussion and Deliverables
August 1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Possible effective date of legislation if not immediate upon adoption by all three divisions.</li></ul>

## Division II

- Following the discussions and potential recommendations made by Divisions I and III in April, the Division II Management Council in July will be asked to consider noncontroversial legislation to deregulate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports.
- If the legislation is not ultimately deregulated, should the Management Council request that the Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement (SAR) Committee consider amending its sports wagering violation reinstatement guidelines (see below)? Specifically, the Management Council has indicated its support for the deregulation of the legislation to permit wagering on professional sports while still prohibiting wagering on collegiate sports. Given this support, should the SAR Committee provide guidance to national office staff that they could consider relief that does not include withholding from competition if it is determined the student-athlete only wagered on professional sports? Repayment will still be required as wagering on professional sports would still be prohibited, but additional relief could be considered given the Management Council's support to deregulate the legislation. The Management Council could direct the SAR Committee to consider this amendment to its guidelines to be reviewed and approved during its May meeting in case legislation to deregulate the legislation is not supported by all three divisions this summer.
- Similar to the other divisions, should the Management Council request the SAR Committee to review concepts related to safe harbor and limited immunity at an upcoming meeting. 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.

## Timeline.

Date	Meeting/Deadline	Discussion and Deliverables
April 14-15	Management Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Status update on review.</li></ul>
April 22	Executive Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Status update on review.</li></ul>

Date	Meeting/Deadline	Discussion and Deliverables
April 24	Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Status update on review.</li></ul>
May 15	Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review of sports wagering violation reinstatement guidelines and possibly safe harbor and limited immunity.</li></ul>
July 21-22	Management Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider noncontroversial legislation in legislative form, if DI and DIII have approved changes to the legislation.</li></ul>
August 1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possible effective date of legislation if not immediate upon adoption by all three divisions.</li></ul>

### Current NCAA Sports Wagering Legislation

**Bylaw 10.02.1 Sports Wagering.** Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; Internet sports wagering; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

**10.02.2 Wager.** A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

**10.3 Sports Wagering Activities.** The following individuals shall not knowingly participate in sports wagering activities or provide information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition:)

- (a) Staff members of an institution's athletics department;
- (b) Nonathletics department staff members who have responsibilities within or over the athletics department (e.g., chancellor or president, faculty athletics representative, individual to whom athletics reports);
- (c) Staff members of a conference office; and
- (d) Student-athletes.

**10.3.1 Scope of Application.** The prohibition against sports wagering applies to any institutional practice or any competition (intercollegiate, amateur or professional) in a sport in which the



Association conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

**10.3.1.1 Exception.** The provisions of Bylaw 10.3 are not applicable to traditional wagers between institutions (e.g., traditional rivalry) or in conjunction with contests (e.g., bowl games). Items wagered must be representative of the involved institutions or the states in which they are located.

**10.3.2 Suspension by a Non-NCAA National or International Sports Governing Body.** A student-athlete under a sports wagering related suspension from a non-NCAA national or international sports governing body shall not participate in intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.

### **Current Sports Wagering Violation Reinstatement Guidelines.**

#### Division II Guidelines for violations reported on or after November 15, 2023:

- (1) In situations where a student-athlete engages in activities designed to influence the outcome or integrity of an intercollegiate contest or in an effort to affect win-loss margins ("point shaving"), who participates in any sports wagering activity involving the student-athlete's institution, or who knowingly provides information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to begin its withholding analysis at permanent loss of eligibility in all sports. (May 2018, affirmed November 2023)
- (2) In situations where a student-athlete participates in any sports wagering activity involving another collegiate institution, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to require the student-athlete participate in sports wagering rules and prevention education and begin its withholding analysis at sit-one-season of competition and charge the use of one season of competition. (May 2018, updated November 2023)
- (3) For all other violations of Bylaw 10.3 (e.g., in-game betting, person-to-person wagers), the following guidelines shall apply (dollar value is cumulative amount wagered or risked):
  - (a) \$200 or less = participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
  - (b) Greater than \$200 to \$500 = 10% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
  - (c) Greater than \$500 to \$800 = 20% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
  - (d) Greater than \$800 = 30% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.

In cases where the impermissible sports wagering activity greatly exceeds \$800, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to consider whether additional withholding, including permanent ineligibility, may be appropriate. (December 2011, affirmed May 2013, updated November 2023)

- (4) For any violation where a student-athlete receives winnings associated with any sports wagering activity, the student-athlete must make repayment of full value received. (December 2011, affirmed May 2013, affirmed November 2023)
- (5) If the student-athlete is determined to have been involved in a later violation of any portion of Bylaw 10.3, the committee directed staff to begin its withholding analysis at permanent loss of eligibility in all sports. (affirmed November 2023)

### **Legislative and Policy History**

NCAA legislation governing sports wagering activities was first adopted by all three divisions voting together in 1984. The legislation prohibited staff members of athletics departments from knowingly providing information to assist individuals involved in organized gambling activities, soliciting a bet on an intercollegiate team, accepting a bet on a team representing the institution or participating in gambling involving intercollegiate athletics through a bookmaker, a parlay card or any other method employed by organized gambling. One year later, the legislation was amended to prohibit student-athletes from participating in the same activities.

In 1996, the prohibition on participation in gambling activities that involve professional athletics was added to the legislation but was only applicable to student-athletes. A year later, the legislation was revised again to also preclude athletics department staff members from participating in gambling activities involving professional athletics. The rationale for the proposal that added the prohibition on gambling involving professional athletes noted that the NCAA opposes all forms of sports wagering because it undermines, or carries the potential to undermine, the integrity of sports contests and noted that sports wagering was illegal, at the time, in every state except Nevada. The rationale also noted that the legislation that “prohibits gambling on intercollegiate athletics, is somewhat neutralized without a companion piece related to professional athletics, because all of the pitfalls related to gambling on intercollegiate sports exist if a student-athlete is permitted to gamble on professional sports.” In 1998, legislation was adopted to prohibit conference staff members from participating in gambling activities.

In 2000, legislation was adopted to establish separate eligibility ramifications for a student-athlete’s participation in sports wagering activities. A student-athlete who participated in activities designed to influence the outcome of an intercollegiate contest or solicited or accepted a bet on the student-athlete’s institution became subject to permanent ineligibility. Participation in other gambling activities resulted in eligibility for one year and the student-athlete being charged with the loss of a minimum of one season of competition. A subsequent violation would result in permanent ineligibility.

In 2007, the legislation was restructured, and clarifications were made regarding prohibited sports wagering activities and the individuals to whom the prohibitions applied. The proposal clarified

that prohibited sports wagering activities included “internet sports wagering; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.” The proposal also clarified that the prohibition against sports wagering applied to “nonathletics department staff members who have responsibilities within or over the athletics department (e.g., chancellor or president, faculty athletics representative, individual to whom athletics reports).” In addition, the proposal clarified the scope of the application of the prohibition on sports wagering activities by stating that it “applies to any institutional practice or any competition (intercollegiate, amateur or professional) in a sport in which the Association conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.” Finally, when the proposal was adopted, the three divisions agreed to make the sports wagering legislation “common,” meaning that in order to change the legislation in the future, each division would be required to adopt the same changes through the use of its separate legislative process.

In 2018, legislation was adopted to eliminate the legislated sanctions for a student-athlete’s participation in sports wagering activities, which were established in 2000 (as noted above). The legislation was recommended by the Committees on Student-Athlete Reinstatement from all three divisions in order to allow sports wagering violations to be reviewed on an individual basis and for the totality of the circumstances of the violation to be considered, and to promote increased fairness by providing an appellate opportunity. The change to the legislation was also influenced by the proliferation of internet-based and mobile wagering activities, such as daily fantasy sports games. More student-athletes were becoming involved in fantasy sports wagering activities and the strict legislated penalties were seen by many to be unduly punitive for the level of the sports wagering activity.

Another significant event occurred in May 2018 when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, which banned sports betting in most states. Since that decision, there has been an unprecedented proliferation of legal and regulated sports wagering in the United States (see Attachment for sports betting landscape as of May 2024), including drastic changes on the internet-based nature of the majority of that wagering (e.g., through internet sportsbooks, daily fantasy sites). There have also been changes to the NCAA sports wagering championships hosting policy, which now allows states that have single-game sports betting the opportunity to host NCAA championship events. Further signaling an evolving landscape in this area, institutions and conferences have entered official partnerships with gaming companies.

When legislation was adopted in 2018 to eliminate the legislated sanctions for a student-athlete’s participation in sports wagering activities, the sanctions were incorporated into the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement’s guidelines, which previously addressed scenarios not captured by the legislation. The guidelines serve as a starting point for the student-athlete reinstatement staff to begin its case-by-case analysis of sport wagering violations. The reinstatement guidelines remained largely unchanged until they were reviewed and updated in January 2024 by Division II. In reviewing and updating the guidelines, it was acknowledged that there is a need to be nimble, given the evolving landscape specific to sports wagering, while underscoring the severity of activities designed to influence the integrity of competitions and addressing the growing need to recenter student-athlete health and well-being as a primary focus within sports wagering policy.



## Quarterly Report / NCAA Division II

### March 2025

- **Jason Yaman Named CSC Executive Director:** Jason Yaman, a 23-year veteran in college athletics administration and sports communications, assumed the role of executive director of College Sports Communicators on March 10. He most recently served as associate commissioner for The Southern Conference and previously worked at the University of Maryland, Indiana State University and Saginaw Valley State University. [Full story here](#)
- **CSC Career Satisfaction & Communications Industry Member Surveys:** CSC recently completed intake of data for two membership/career surveys, including the Member Institution Communications Staff Research Survey and the Compensation & Career Satisfaction Survey. The surveys will provide members and member institutions valuable industry data related to salary, resources, career satisfaction and much more. Results will be shared with CSC membership later this spring and will help form presentations at the upcoming CSCUnite25 convention. More details will be available in late spring.
- **CSC Unite Convention Registration Remains Open:** Registration for CSCUnite25, the association's annual convention in conjunction with NACDA & Affiliates, remains open, with Advance registration rates in effect until May 10. After that, higher Regular registration rates will apply. This year's convention will be held at the Marriott World Center Resort in Orlando from June 8-11. The always-popular Divisional Day programming will take place on Monday, June 9, with programming created by and for members of various divisions. [Convention home page here](#)
- **CSC Unite Attendance Grant Winners Announced:** Four CSC members from Division II institutions and conference offices are among the 22 who have received CSC Convention Attendance Grants for 2025. Division II members receiving the CSC grant are Sofiia Briantseva of Emmanuel University, Kristin Farris, Bemidji State University, Jesse Soles of Francis Marion University and Michael Vesci of Post University. In addition, participants selected through the NCAA Inclusion CSC Unite Convention Grant program who represent Division II are Coreyon Chester of Texas Woman's University and Devane'e Williams of Eckerd College. [Full story here](#)
- **CSC Special Awards Winners Recognized:** The following NCAA Division II members have been selected as Special Awards winners and will be recognized during CSCUnite25 in June: [Full story here](#)
  - o Lester Jordan Award, Bob Shreve, Gannon University
  - o Lifetime Achievement Award - John Kean, Missouri University of Science and Technology
  - o 25-Year Award - Rob Bentley, Ferris State University, Scott Goode, Harding University, Colin McDonough, Northwest Missouri State University, Jim Stephen, Belmont Abbey College

- **Academic All-America® Awards Program Update:** CSC's Academic All-America program continues to honor elite student-athletes. Fall sport Academic All-District and Academic All-America Teams can be found [here](#). Following are Division II Academic All-Americans of the Year for Division III for 2024-25:
  - o Nathan Donovan, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire- Division III Academic All-American of the Year, Men's Soccer
  - o Elle Sutter, North Central University - Division III Academic All-American of the Year, Women's Soccer
  - o Olivia Foley, Juniata College - Division III Academic All-American of the Year, Volleyball
  - o Aaron Syverson, Saint John's University (Minn.) - Division III Academic All-American of the Year, Football

Men's and women's basketball and men's and women's swimming & diving Academic All-America teams, including Academic All-Americans of the Year, will be announced between April 15-23. The master calendar can be found [here](#).
- **CSC Membership:** CSC has recently surpassed 4,600 members for the 2024-25 membership year. As of Feb. 28, that number includes 620 Division II members from 245 schools and 14 conferences. Last year's final totals included 600 Division II members from 237 schools and 13 conferences.
- **CSC Grants & Scholarships Open for 2025-26:** Applications for CSC's various scholarships and internship grants for the 2025-26 academic year are now open through April 4. Included are two graduate internship grants to assist member institutions' athletics communications offices with funds to support the addition of a graduate internship. [Full story here](#)

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REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
MARCH 18, 2025, ELECTRONIC ACTION

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- NCAA Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.
  - (1) Recommendation. Appoint **Jacqie 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.
  - (2) Effective Date. September 1, 2025.
  - (3) Rationale. This new committee is an Association-wide committee that will take over the work of the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics and NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee. This committee will consist of 25 members and include at least three representatives from each division. Jacqie McWilliams, Greg Bamberger, Dawn Turner, Mercedes Himmons and Nichole Book were chosen as the representatives for Division II. Ms. McWilliams brings continuity to the committee as a current member of the Gender Equity Task Force. Mr. Bamberger and Ms. Turner bring experience serving on the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics. Ms. Himmons has served on multiple ethnic diversity advisory committees and is the athletics diversity and inclusion designee for Division II. Ms. Book brings 10 years' experience in diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging and Title IX.
  - (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
  - (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

*Committee Chair: Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis*

*Staff Liaison: Jen Roe, Governance and Policy  
Erika Klages, Eligibility Center*

NCAA Division II Nominating Committee March 18, 2025, Electronic Action	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference.	
Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis.	
Bridget Johnson-Tetteh, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference.	
Kathy Kroupa, Lynn University.	
Matisse Lee, Claflin University.	
Matt Pope, Carson-Newman University.	
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University.	
Todd Thurman, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
Cherrie Wilmoth, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
Matt Wilson, Wilmington University (Delaware).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:</b>	
Erika Klages and Jen Roe.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lynn Dickey.	

EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
APRIL 8, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

**a. NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee (one immediate vacancy replacing Andrea Webb).**

- (1) Recommendation. Appoint **Jen Cole**, associate athletics director of compliance and senior woman administrator, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Gulf South Conference.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Dr. Cole has over a decade of experience in higher education, athletics administration and student-athlete wellness, with extensive work in academic reporting. She is a former volleyball student-athlete and coach. Her breadth of knowledge will be an asset to the work of this committee. This will be her first appointment on an NCAA committee.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**b. NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions (one immediate vacancy replacing Sara Richwine).**

- (1) Recommendation. Appoint **Steven Johnson**, assistant athletics director for compliance, Southern Nazarene University, Great American Conference.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Mr. Johnson has nearly 18 years of experience across Division II, including three years as a full-time compliance administrator. He has committee experience with the NCAA Track and Field Rules Committee and is active on a variety of conference committees. His experience will bring great value to the committee.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.



**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Reports from Previous Meetings.** The committee approved the reports from its February 11-12 videoconference and March 18, 2025, electronic action.
2. **Meeting Schedule.** The committee was informed that the February 2026 meeting will no longer be in person.
3. **Additional Nominations.** The committee requested that the following vacancy be reposted to seek additional nominations:
  - **NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee** – one Division II September vacancy, coach or administrator.
4. **Future Meetings.**
  - **Videoconferences.**
    - (1) 2 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, June 10.
    - (2) 2 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, August 12.

*Committee Chair: Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis*  
*Staff Liaison: Jen Roe, Governance and Policy*  
*Erika Klages, Eligibility Center*

NCAA Division II Nominating Committee April 8, 2025, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference.	
Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis.	
Bridget Johnson-Tetteh, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference.	
Kathy Kroupa, Lynn University.	
Matisse Lee, Claflin University.	
Matthew Pope, Carson-Newman University.	
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University.	
Todd Thurman, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
Cherrie Wilmoth, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
Matt Wilson, Wilmington University (Delaware).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Robert Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Erika Klages and Jen Roe.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lynn Dickey and Corey Jackson.	