



## A G E N D A

### National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Management Council

#### Microsoft Teams Meeting

October 16-17, 2023

1. Welcome and announcements. [Supplement No. 1] (Carrie Michaels)
2. Review of previous meetings. (Michaels)
  - a. July 17-18 Division II Management Council and August 2 Presidents Council. [Supplement No. 2]
  - b. NCAA Board of Governors.
    - (1) August 1 videoconference. [Supplement No. 3]
    - (2) August 15 videoconference. [Supplement No. 4]
  - c. Administrative Committee. [Supplement No. 5]
3. 2023-24 Division II Priorities. [Supplement No. 6] (Maritza Jones)
4. NCAA Convention and legislation.
  - a. 2024 NCAA Convention schedule. [Supplement No. 7] (M. Jones)
    - Possible topics for the joint Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council breakfast and meeting. [Supplement No. 8]
  - b. Proposed legislation for the 2024 Convention. [Supplement No. 9] (Chelsea Hooks)
  - c. Discuss conference and membership feedback regarding Convention legislation. [Supplement No. 10] (Hooks and Robert Turick)
  - d. Committees' review of membership-sponsored proposals and Management Council positions. [Supplement No. 11] (Hooks)
  - e. Proposed groupings of proposals and roll-call votes. [Supplement No. 12] (Hooks)
  - f. Suggested speakers for the 2024 Convention proposals. [Supplement No. 13] (Hooks)
  - g. Noncontroversial legislation. [Supplement No. 14] (Rachel Denton)

5. Review of committee recommendations affecting Division II.
  - a. Division II committees.
    - (1) Academic Requirements Committee. [Supplement No. 15] (Danny McCabe)
    - (2) Championships Committee. (Marcus Clarke)
      - (a) August 3 videoconference. [Supplement No. 16]
      - (b) August 11 electronic vote. [Supplement No. 17]
      - (c) August 11 videoconference. [Supplement No. 18]
      - (d) September 14-15 in-person meeting. [Supplement No. 19]
      - (e) September 27 electronic vote. [Supplement No. 20]
      - (f) October 5 videoconference. [Supplement No. 21]
    - (3) Legislation Committee. [Supplement No. 22-a] (Brenda Cates)
      - Update on the work of the NCAA the Division I Name, Image and Likeness Working Group and timeline for Division II to review and discuss proposals developed by Division I. [Supplement No. 22-b] (Hooks)
    - (4) Committee for Legislative Relief. [Supplement No. 23] (Amy Henkelman)
    - (5) Membership Committee. [Supplement No. 24] (Christina Whetsel)
    - (6) Planning and Finance Committee. (Mark Corino)
      - (a) August 16 videoconference. [Supplement No. 25]
      - (b) September 20 videoconference. [Supplement No. 26]
      - (c) Unaudited 2022-23 budget figures. [Supplement No. 27]
    - (7) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. (Emma Kramer and Austin Mondello)
      - (a) July 14-15 in-person meeting. [Supplement No. 28]
      - (b) August 9 videoconference. [Supplement No. 29]

- b. Division II subcommittees, project teams and task forces.
  - Management Council Identity Subcommittee. [Supplement No. 30] (Sandee Mott)
- c. Association-wide committees.
  - (1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. [Supplement No. 31] (Sarah Ramey)
  - (2) Honors Committee. [Supplement No. 32] (Kim Hancock)
  - (3) Playing Rules Oversight Panel. (Karen Kirsch)
    - (a) July 19 videoconference. [Supplement No. 33]
    - (b) August 10 videoconference. [Supplement No. 34]
  - (4) Postgraduate Scholarship Committee. [Supplement No. 35] (Bo Pagliasotti)
  - (5) Committee on Women's Athletics. (Gretchen Miron)
6. Roundtable discussions regarding key goals for Division II Strategic Plan. [Supplement No. 36] (Terri Steeb Gronau)

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Patrick Britz	Brenda Cates ( <i>Facilitator</i> )	Femi Alao
Ben Cherry	Mark Corino	Marcus Clarke
Kim Hancock ( <i>Recorder/Reporter</i> )	Jeremy Elliott ( <i>Recorder/Reporter</i> )	Theresa Grosbach
David Hansburg ( <i>Facilitator</i> )	Kristi Kiefer	Amy Henkelman ( <i>Facilitator</i> )
Erin Lind	Emma Kramer	Katherine Loh
Cindy McKnight	Danny McCabe	Carrie Michaels
Austin Mondello	Sandee Mott	Roberta Page
Bo Pagliasotti	Sarah Ramey	Christina Whetsel
Terri Steeb Gronau	Jerry Wollmering	Vaughn Williams ( <i>Recorder/Reporter</i> )
Angela Red	Maritza Jones	Ryan Jones
Corbin McGuire	Karen Kirsch	Kendee Hilliard
Jordan Lysiak	Robert Turick	Micaela Liddane
	Rachel Denton	Chelsea Hooks

7. Division II Management Council.

- a. Elections to fill vacancies from the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, Conference Carolinas, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Mountain East Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and one at-large representative. [Supplement No. 37] (Michaels)
  - b. Election of Management Council chair. [Supplement No. 38] (Michaels)
  - c. Election of Management Council vice chair. [Supplement No. 39] (Michaels)
  - d. Management Council committee and project team assignments. [Supplement No. 40] (Michaels)
  - e. Management Council policies and procedures. [Supplement No. 41] (M. Jones)
  - f. Discussion regarding Management Council sponsoring NCAA Convention proposals. [Supplement No. 42] (Steeb Gronau)
8. National office updates.
  - a. Legal. (Jared Tidemann)
  - b. Sport Science Institute. (Brian Hainline, John Parsons and Anne Rohlman)
  - c. Division II Award of Excellence. [[Supplement No. 43](#)] (Ryan Jones)
  - d. Division II FAR Fellows Institute. [Supplement No. 44] (M. Jones)
  - e. Division II diversity grants. [Supplement No. 45] (Lamarr Pottinger)
  - f. Division II Make Game Day Yours. (R. Jones)
  - g. Division II SAAC Super Region Convention. (R. Jones)
  - h. Division II Make It Yours brand/marketing strategy. [Supplement Nos. 46 and 47] (R. Jones)
  - i. Gender equity internal review. (John Baldwin)
  - j. NCAA Transfer Portal. (Susan Peal)
  - k. Sports wagering. [Supplement No. 48] (Clint Hangebrauck and Mark Hicks)
9. Affiliated association updates.



- a. Division II Athletics Director Association. (M. Jones)
  - b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association. (Erin Lind)
  - c. College Sports Communicators. [Supplement No. 49] (Jerry Wollmering)
  - d. Faculty Athletics Representative Association. (Cates)
  - e. Minority Opportunity Athletics Association. (Vaughn Williams)
  - f. National Association for Athletics Compliance. (Whetsel)
  - g. Women Leaders in Sports. (Ramey)
10. Other business. (Michaels)
11. Meeting recap/things to report back to conferences. (Michaels)
12. Future meetings. (Michaels)
  - a. January 10-13, 2024, in conjunction with the 2024 NCAA Convention; Phoenix, Arizona.
  - b. April 15-16, 2024, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - c. July 20-21, 2024, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit; Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - d. July 22-23, 2024, Management Council meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana.
  - e. October 21-22, Management Council meeting; videoconference.
  - f. January 15-18, 2025, in conjunction with the 2025 NCAA Convention; Nashville, Tennessee.
13. Adjournment. (Michaels)

2023 NCAA Division II Management Council Roster

<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
<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
<b>Brenda Cates</b> Faculty Athletics Representative University of Mount Olive 634 Henderson Street Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365	Telephone: 919-658-2502 Email: <a href="mailto:bcates@umo.edu">bcates@umo.edu</a> Cell Phone: 910-935-0046 Term: January 2024
<b>Bennett Cherry</b> Faculty Athletics Representative California State University, San Marcos 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road San Marcos, California 92096	Telephone: 760-750-4217 Email: <a href="mailto:bcherry@csusm.edu">bcherry@csusm.edu</a> Cell Phone: 951-551-7345 Term: January 2027
<b>Marcus Clarke</b> Senior Associate Commissioner Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association 4725 Piedmont Row Drive, Suite 200 Charlotte, North Carolina 28210	Telephone: 704-910-2133 Email: <a href="mailto:mclarke@theciaa.com">mclarke@theciaa.com</a> Cell Phone: 757-298-4503 Term: January 2025
<b>Mark A. Corino</b> Assistant Vice President/Director of Athletics Caldwell University 120 Bloomfield Avenue Caldwell, New Jersey 07009	Telephone: 973-865-4936 Email: <a href="mailto:mcorino@caldwell.edu">mcorino@caldwell.edu</a> Term: January 2024
<b>Jeremy Elliott</b> Faculty Athletics Representative University of Alabama in Huntsville 301 Sparkman Drive Huntsville, Alabama 35899	Telephone: 256-824-2185 Email: <a href="mailto:jme0017@uah.edu">jme0017@uah.edu</a> Cell Phone: 706-474-4955 Term: January 2027

<b>Theresa Grosbach</b> Deputy Director of Athletics/SWA Missouri Western State University 4525 Downs Drive St. Joseph, Missouri 64507	Telephone: 816-271-4528 Email: <a href="mailto:tgrosbach@missouriwestern.edu">tgrosbach@missouriwestern.edu</a> Cell Phone: 913-530-4955 Term: January 2027
<b>Kim Hancock</b> Faculty Athletics Representative Ferris State University 220 Ferris Drive Big Rapids, Michigan 493074	Telephone: 231-580-1195 Email: <a href="mailto:hancockk@ferris.edu">hancockk@ferris.edu</a> Term: January 2027
<b>David Hansburg</b> Director of Athletics Colorado School of Mines 1500 Illinois Street Golden, Colorado 80401	Telephone: 303-273-3300 Email: <a href="mailto:hansburg@mines.edu">hansburg@mines.edu</a> Cell Phone: 303-601-8702 Term: January 2026
<b>Amy Henkelman</b> Director of Athletics Dominican University of California 50 Acacia Avenue San Rafael, California 94901	Telephone: 415-257-1304 Email: <a href="mailto:amy.henkelman@dominican.edu">amy.henkelman@dominican.edu</a> Term: January 2025
<b>Kristi Kiefer</b> Associate Athletics Director/SWA Fairmont State University 310 Feaster Center 1201 Locust Avenue Fairmont, West Virginia 26554	Telephone: 304-367-4265 Email: <a href="mailto:kkiefer@fairmontstate.edu">kkiefer@fairmontstate.edu</a> Cell Phone: 304-476-6541 Term: January 2024
<b>Emma Kramer</b> Student-Athlete Simon Fraser University 3055 Greenwood Place Burnaby, British Columbia Canada V5A 2Y3	Telephone: 262-351-4251 Email: <a href="mailto:krame038@rangers.uwp.edu">krame038@rangers.uwp.edu</a> Term: January 2024
<b>Erin Lind</b> Commissioner Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference 2999 CR 42 West, Suite 136 Burnsville, Minnesota 55306	Telephone: 952-500-8053 Email: <a href="mailto:lind@northernsun.org">lind@northernsun.org</a> Term: January 2026

<b>Katherine Loh</b> Faculty Athletics Representative Florida Southern College 111 Lake Hollingsworth Drive Lakeland, Florida 33823	Telephone: 863-680-4151 Email: <a href="mailto:kloh@flsouthern.edu">kloh@flsouthern.edu</a> Cell Phone: 863-899-5085 Term: January 2027
<b>Danny McCabe</b> Director of Athletics Adelphi University 1 South Avenue Garden City, New York 11530	Telephone: 516-877-4231 Email: <a href="mailto:dmccabe@adelphi.edu">dmccabe@adelphi.edu</a> Cell Phone: 516-779-0019 Term: January 2025
<b>Cindy McKnight</b> Director of Athletics/SWA Ursuline College 2550 Lander Road Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124	Telephone: 440-684-6102 Email: <a href="mailto:cmcknight@ursuline.edu">cmcknight@ursuline.edu</a> Cell Phone: 440-221-2596 Term: January 2027
<b>Carrie Michaels, chair</b> Senior Associate Director of Athletics/SWA Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania 1871 Old Main Drive Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257	Telephone: 717-477-1711 Email: <a href="mailto:camichaels@ship.edu">camichaels@ship.edu</a> Cell Phone: 717-262-3116 Term: January 2024
<b>Austin Mondello</b> Student-Athlete Colorado Mesa University 941 Walnut Avenue Grand Junction, Colorado 81501	Telephone: 479-282-4884 Email: <a href="mailto:austin.mondello@gmail.com">austin.mondello@gmail.com</a> Term: January 2024
<b>Sandee Mott</b> Director of Athletics Texas Woman's University 1200 Frame Street P.O. Box 425349 Denton, Texas 76204-5349	Telephone: 940-898-2381 Email: <a href="mailto:smott3@twu.edu">smott3@twu.edu</a> Term: January 2026
<b>Roberta Page</b> Director of Athletics Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania 101 Field House Road, Suite 102 Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania 16057	Telephone: 724-738-2767 Email: <a href="mailto:roberta.page@sru.edu">roberta.page@sru.edu</a> Cell Phone: 317-650-9098 Term: January 2027

<b>Bo Pagliasotti</b> Faculty Athletics Representative Southwestern Oklahoma State University 100 Campus Drive Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096	Telephone: 580-774-7089 Email: <a href="mailto:bo.pagliasotti@swosu.edu">bo.pagliasotti@swosu.edu</a> Term: January 2026
<b>Sarah Ramey</b> Deputy Athletics Director/SWA West Texas A&M University WTAMU Box 60049 Canyon, Texas 79015	Telephone: 806-651-4433 Email: <a href="mailto:sramey@wtamu.edu">sramey@wtamu.edu</a> Term: January 2027
<b>Christina Whetsel</b> Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance and Academic Services/SWA Augusta University 1120 Fifteenth Street, CFH 214 Augusta, Georgia 30912	Telephone: 706-729-2450 Email: <a href="mailto:cwhetsel@augusta.edu">cwhetsel@augusta.edu</a> Cell Phone: 325-245-9939 Term: January 2026
<b>Vaughn Williams</b> Director of Athletics Bentley University 175 Forest Street Waltham, Massachusetts 02452	Telephone: 781-891-2985 Email: <a href="mailto:vwilliams@bentley.edu">vwilliams@bentley.edu</a> Cell Phone: 678-315-7216 Term: January 2027
<b>Jerry Wollmering, vice chair</b> Director of Athletics Truman State University 100 East Normal Street Kirksville, Missouri 63501	Telephone: 660-341-8933 Email: <a href="mailto:jerryw@truman.edu">jerryw@truman.edu</a> Term: January 2024

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**NCAA Staff Liaisons**

**Terri Steeb Gronau**  
Vice-President of Division II  
Email: [tgronau@ncaa.org](mailto:tgronau@ncaa.org)

**Maritza Silva Jones**  
Managing Director of Division II  
Email: [msjones@ncaa.org](mailto:msjones@ncaa.org)

**Ryan Jones**  
Director of Division II  
Email: [rjones@ncaa.org](mailto:rjones@ncaa.org)

**Jill Waddell**  
Executive Assistant for Division II  
Email: [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org)

**Angela Red**  
Director of Academic and Membership Affairs  
for Division II  
Email: [ared@ncaa.org](mailto:ared@ncaa.org)

**Chelsea Hooks**  
Associate Director of Academic and  
Membership Affairs  
Email: [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org)

**Jordan Lysiak**  
Associate Director of Academic and  
Membership Affairs  
Email: [jlysiak@ncaa.org](mailto:jlysiak@ncaa.org)

**Rachel Denton**  
Assistant Director of Academic and  
Membership Affairs  
Email: [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org)

**Karen Kirsch**  
Director of Championships and Alliances  
Email: [kkirsch@ncaa.org](mailto:kkirsch@ncaa.org)

**Micaela Liddane**  
Assistant Director of Championships and  
Alliances  
Email: [mliddane@ncaa.org](mailto:mliddane@ncaa.org)

**Corbin McGuire**  
Associate Director of Communications  
Email: [cmcguire@ncaa.org](mailto:cmcguire@ncaa.org)

**Robert Turick**  
Assistant Director of Research  
Email: [rturick@ncaa.org](mailto:rturick@ncaa.org)

**U.S. Mailing Address**  
NCAA  
P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

**Telephone:** 317/917-6222  
**Facsimile:** 317/917-6971

## SUMMARY OF SUMMER 2023 QUARTERLY MEETINGS

National Collegiate Athletic Association  
June 8, 2023, Division II Management Council and Presidents Council;  
July 17-18, 2023, Management Council; and August 2, 2023, Presidents Council

### *JUNE 8, 2023, DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND DIVISION II PRESIDENTS COUNCIL VIDEOCONFERENCE.*

1. **Welcome.** The Presidents Council and Management Council convened their joint videoconference at 2:02 p.m. Eastern time Thursday, June 8. The Presidents Council vice chair welcomed those in attendance.
  2. **Update on NCAA Media Rights.** The Management Council and Presidents Council received a media rights update.
  3. **Adjournment.** The Councils adjourned at 2:32 p.m. Eastern time June 8.
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### *JULY 17-18, 2023, MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN-PERSON MEETING AND AUGUST 2, 2023, PRESIDENTS COUNCIL VIDEOCONFERENCE.*

1. **Welcome and Announcements.**

Management Council. The Management Council convened its quarterly meeting at 8:33 a.m. Monday, July 17. The chair thanked the Council for their attendance at the weekend Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit.

The chair welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging staff who were present.

The chair welcomed Anthony Holloman, commissioner at the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, as an observer to the meeting due to Curtis Campbell, former Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference representative, having resigned from the Council.

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

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council convened its videoconference at 12:04 p.m. Eastern time Wednesday, August 2.

The chair welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging staff who were present.

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

2. **Review of Previous Minutes.**

- a. **March 2 Management Council and Presidents Council; April 17-18 Management Council; and April 26 Presidents Council.**

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

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the summary of actions from its spring meetings.

- b. **Board of Governors.**

- (1) **March 16 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the Board of Governors report from its March 16 videoconference.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the Board of Governors report from its March 16 videoconference.

- (2) **April 25 Videoconference.**

- **Legislation – Committees – Association-Wide Committees – Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the Board of Governors report from its April 25 videoconference. Per the request of the Board of Governors, the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee. The council noted the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee's duties overlap with a partnership between the NCAA and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC). In addition, the council noted the NCAA's engagement with the USOPC Collegiate Advisory Council, which was established in 2017 to strengthen Olympic and Paralympic sports in the American collegiate system and is comprised of representatives from Division I institutions that have historically contributed to Team USA's success at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

[Note: The cooperation agreement between the NCAA and the USOPC will be amended to ensure that Divisions II and III are briefed and considered on issues and conversations related to Olympic, Paralympic, and elite athlete participation in international competition.]



Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the Board of Governors report from its April 25 videoconference. No action was necessary.

**(3) Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity report from its May 18 videoconference.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity report from its May 18 videoconference.

**c. Administrative Committee.**

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

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

**3. Division II Strategic Plan.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the SWOT analysis summary that was conducted this past spring for the Division II Strategic Plan, as well as the updated timeline for the 2026-32 Strategic Plan. The Management Council endorsed the updated timeline noting that the Presidents Council will be asked to approve the timeline during its August meeting.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council was provided an overview of the SWOT analysis summary that was conducted this past spring for the Division II Strategic Plan, as well as the updated timeline for the 2026-32 Strategic Plan. The Presidents Council approved the updated time for the development of the 2026-32 Division II Strategic Plan.

**4. Review and Approval of 2023-24 Division II Priorities.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the priorities for 2023-24, as amended to update the Division II SAAC priorities discussed during the Management Council/SAAC Summit over the weekend.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the priorities for 2023-24, as distributed.

5. **NCAA Convention and Legislation.**

a. **Proposed Legislation for the 2024 Convention Submitted by the Division II Membership.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council take the following action regarding the membership-sponsored proposals for the 2024 NCAA Convention.

- (1) **Playing and Practice Seasons – Football – First Contest – Championship Segment.** Refer to the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Division II Championships Committee, Division II Football Committee, Division II Legislation Committee, and the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.
- (2) **Playing and Practice Seasons – Softball – Number of Contests – Maximum Limitations – Institutional and Student-Athlete – Nonchampionship Segment.** Refer to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Championships Committee, Legislation Committee, and Division II Softball Committee for review and a position of support, opposition or no position.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council referred the proposals above to the recommended committees for review and position.

b. **Noncontroversial Legislation.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted in legislative form seven noncontroversial proposals that had previously been approved in concept (Proposal Nos. NC-2024-5 through NC-2024-8 and NC-2024-10 through NC-2024-12), as presented. The seven proposals are listed below.

- (1) **Proposal No. NC-2024-5: Committees -- Association-Wide Committees - - General Committees -- Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct -- Elimination of Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.** To eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.
- (2) **Proposal No. NC-2024-6: Committees -- Division II Committees -- Division II General Committees – Championships Committee -- Duties - - Final Authority.** To specify that the Division II Championships Committee shall have final authority to approve Division II sport and rules committee appointments.

- (3) **Proposal No. NC-2024-7: Championships and Postseason Football and Executive Regulations – Merging Bylaw 18 And 31.** To amend and combine Bylaws 18 and 31, as specified.
- (4) **Proposal No. NC-2024-8: Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment -- Standardized Dates for End of Grace Period.** To permit the NCAA Eligibility Center to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the standard end date of the prospective student-athlete's grace period.
- (5) **Proposal No. NC-2024-10: NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control -- Active Membership -- Institutions -- Minimum Contests and Participants Requirements for Sports Sponsorship -- Football, Men's Golf, Women's Golf and Men's Lacrosse.** In the sports of football, men's golf, women's golf and men's lacrosse, to amend the minimum number of contests and participants for sports sponsorship, as specified.
- (6) **Proposal No. NC-2024-11: NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control -- Provisional Membership -- Institutions - Change of Division Membership (All Sports) -- Division II Membership Process -- Provisional Period -- Assessment Program -- Removal of Institutional Self-Study Guide.** To eliminate the requirement that institutions in year one of the provisional process must complete a comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG).
- (7) **Proposal No. NC-2024-12: NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control -- Provisional Membership -- Institutions - Change of Division Membership (All Sports) -- Division II Membership Process -- Provisional Period -- Assessment Program -- Director of Athletics Attendance at the NCAA Inclusion Forum.** To add the director of athletics as a required institutional representative at the NCAA Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- 6. **Review of Committee Recommendations Affecting Division II.**
  - a. **Update on Referrals from Division II Implementation Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an overview of the referrals made by the Division II Implementation Committee. The Council also received a status update from the respective committee liaisons on each referral.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an overview of the referrals made by the Division II Implementation Committee. The Council also received a status update from the respective committee liaisons on each referral.

**b. Division II Committees.**

**(1) Academic Requirements Committee.**

- (a) Noncontroversial Legislation – NCAA Division II Bylaws 7.3.1.5.12.1 and 7.3.1.5.13 – Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership – Academic Success Rate and Academic Performance Census – Failure to Submit.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that the timing of the withholding of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution funds for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data will be done with the next distribution.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (b) Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaws 7.3.1.5.12.1.1 and 7.3.1.5.13.1 – Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership – Academic Success Rate and Academic Performance Census – Failure to Submit – Waiver – Final Authority.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall have final authority over waivers of an institution's failure to submit ASR and APC data by the legislated deadlines.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (c) Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaws 14.1.2.4 and 21.6 – General Eligibility Requirements and Common Committees – Committees with Governance Administration Responsibilities – High School Review Committee and Student Records Review Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the NCAA Student Records Review Committee (SRRC); further to amend the duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee (HSRC) to add former duties of the SRRC related to the validity of academic credentials.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(d) Division II Academic Requirements Committee – NCAA Division II Academic Guiding Principles.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council approve the NCAA Division II Academic Guiding Principles, as specified. [Attachment A]

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the Division II Academic Guiding Principles that would be used by the governance structure when discussing and recommending academic changes to Division II legislation.

**(e) Waiver of Division II Degree-Completion Award Criteria Due to Circumstances Surrounding COVID-19.**

Management Council. The Management Council waived the current Division II Degree-Completion Award requirements for student-athletes who received an extension request during the 2020-21 academic year due to the COVID-19 pandemic to permit student-athletes to participate in their last season of eligibility during the 2024-25 academic year and still receive the award.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(f) Division II Degree-Completion Award Increase.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved an increase to the Division II Degree-Completion Award value that is the lesser of: Tuition for the remaining credits toward completing an undergraduate degree; or Up to \$15,000.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(g) Change in the Division II Degree-Completion Award Criteria.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved a change in the Division II Degree-Completion Award criteria to specify that

an applicant must be within 40-semester hours (or 60-quarter hours) of completion of an undergraduate degree.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) **Championships Committee.**

(a) **May 1 Electronic Vote.**

- **Sport Committee Appointment.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update that the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following sport committee appointment:

- **Women's Rowing. Frank Gonzalez**, associate director of athletics/academic success, Barry University, to replace John Adkison, associate director of athletics, Embry- Riddle Aeronautical University, who left the institution.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

[The appointments noted above were approved May 3 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference.]

(b) **May 4 Videoconference.**

- **Sport and Rule Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following sport and rules committee appointments, effective September 1, 2023, unless otherwise specified:

- i. **Women's Basketball. Jenepher Banker**, assistant athletic director and head women's basketball coach at Daemen University, to replace Karen Haag, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at College of Saint Rose, due to term expiration.
- ii. **Football (immediate appointment). David Sharp**, director of athletics at Ouachita Baptist University, to

- replace Matt Mitchell, head football coach at Grand Valley State University, who left the institution.
- iii. **Men's Lacrosse Rules. Jason Lange**, head men's lacrosse coach at University of Montevallo, to replace Alex Smith, head men's lacrosse coach at Saint Michael's College, due to term expiration.
  - iv. **Men's Soccer. Rudy Brownell**, head men's soccer coach at Tiffin University, to replace Michael Koehler, assistant director of athletics at Rockhurst University, due to term expiration.
  - v. **Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving. Andrew Makepeace**, head swimming and diving coach at University of Findlay, to replace Kirk Sanocki, head swimming and diving coach at Wingate University, due to term expiration.
  - vi. **Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules. Katie Rees**, head track and field coach at Adelphi University, to replace Zach Emerson, assistant director of athletics and head track and field coach at Franklin Pierce University, due to term expiration.
  - vii. **Men's Volleyball. Anthony Holloman**, commissioner of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, to replace Ryan Booher, head men's volleyball coach at King university, due to term expiration.
  - viii. **Women's Volleyball. Joey Pacis**, head coach at Bentley University (immediate appointment), to replace Stephanie Dragan, head women's volleyball coach at Franklin Pierce University, who resigned from the committee; and **Katie O'Brien**, assistant director of athletics at University of Montevallo, to replace Jill Stephens, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Florida Southern College, due to term expiration.
  - ix. **Women's Volleyball Rules. Julia Rowland**, senior associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Coker University, to replace Tiffany

McC Campbell, associate director of athletics at Colorado School of Mines, due to term expiration.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(c) **June 26-27 Videoconference.**

- i. **2024 NCAA Convention Legislation – Bylaws 18.2.4.1, 18.2.4.2 and 18.2.10 – Minimum Sponsorship for Championships and Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements – 35 and a Three-Year Grace Period.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council sponsor legislation for the 2024 Convention to amend Bylaws 18.2.4.1 (men's sports) and 18.2.4.2 (women's sports) to specify that the minimum number of sponsoring institutions required to establish and/or maintain a championship is 35 for either gender (rather than the current requirements of 50 for men's sports and 40 for women's sports). (Note: Sports achieving the 35-sponsorship threshold would go through the existing legislative procedures for establishing a championship.) Further, to amend Bylaw 18.2.10 (failure to meet minimum sponsorship requirements) to establish a three-year grace period during which a sport that falls below the minimum sponsorship of 35 may regain the necessary sponsoring institutions before the championship is discontinued, and eliminate the current exceptions in Bylaws 18.2.10.1 (Olympic sports) and 18.2.10.2 (men's and women's lacrosse).

This proposal was among several recommended by the Division II Implementation Committee's championships subcommittee during its review of Division II bylaws and policies in 2022 and subsequently referred to the Division II Championships Committee for further discussion. The Championships Committee has collaborated with membership stakeholder groups (e.g., Division II sport committees, the Division II Conference Commissioners Association, and the Division II Athletics Directors Association) to vet the proposal and has gathered membership feedback through surveys and the Division II Coaches Connection program indicating broad support not only for reducing the minimum requirement but also making



it consistent between genders. The Championships Committee believes 35 is an appropriate benchmark that reflects membership interest and commitment meriting a championship and one that gives emerging sports a reasonable target to transition to championship status.

The Championships Committee notes that the original referral from the Implementation Committee included a five-year grace period for sports that fall below the minimum sponsorship requirement; however, after much deliberation, the committee determined that the grace period should be three years, which the committee believes is a sufficient time for a given sport to recover should it fall below the minimum without unduly extending the grace period and tying up resources that could otherwise be devoted to championships in good standing and emerging sports that merit championship consideration. The grace period would begin at the start of the academic year in which the committee confirms the sport has fallen below the 35-sponsoring institution minimum (sport sponsorship information becomes available annually at the start of the academic year). The committee noted that as with many other legislated requirements, a waiver process would exist should a sport want to appeal the grace period.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to sponsor the legislation for the 2024 Convention.

ii. **2024 Convention Legislation – Bylaws 31.3.4 – Automatic Qualification.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council sponsor legislation for the 2024 Convention to amend Bylaw 31.3.4 (automatic qualification) to specify that automatic qualification privileges shall be granted in all team sports other than football that meet the 35-institution sponsorship threshold (rather than leave that decision up to a sport committee to determine).

The Championships Committee and Management Council believe that all conferences should be provided access to NCAA Division II Championships in all team sports when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. Currently, sport committees have the option of recommending when and if

to apply automatic qualification (AQ) to their selection processes. However, the concept of requiring automatic qualification rather than maintaining it as an option emerged during the Implementation Committee review process as being a core tenet of the Division II championships program. The Championships Committee also notes that automatic qualification has long been regarded as the most effective way to grow a sport, as it establishes an equitable path for member institutions to participate in NCAA championships and an incentive for sponsorship.

If the proposal is adopted, the Championships Committee will establish as policy a 60% maximum for AQs in a bracket. To mitigate the possibility of a sport exceeding the 60% limit, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered at the next budget opportunity whenever a sport reaches a 50% threshold. However, should a sport exceed the 60% limit while being considered for bracket expansion, the Championships Committee may maintain AQ while the field size is being addressed.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to sponsor the legislation for the 2024 Convention.

**iii. 2024 Convention Legislation – Bylaw 31.3.5 – Earned Access.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council sponsor legislation for the 2024 Convention to amend Bylaw 31.3.5 (earned access – football) to require representation in the bracket from all football-sponsoring conferences (i.e., include the highest-ranked team in a conference not already represented in the bracket).

The Championships Committee and Management Council believe that all conferences should be provided access to NCAA Division II Championships in all team sports when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The concept of ensuring all conferences are represented in all team sports emerged during the Implementation Committee review process as being a core tenet of the Division II championships program. Currently, in football, earned access only applies if

at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking.

If the proposal is adopted, the Championships Committee will establish as policy a 60% maximum for earned access in the bracket. To mitigate the possibility of exceeding the 60% limit, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered at the next budget opportunity whenever the sport reaches a 50% threshold. However, should the sport exceed the 60% limit while being considered for bracket expansion, the Championships Committee may maintain earned access while the field size is being addressed.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to sponsor the legislation for the 2024 Convention.

**iv. Access Ratio for Championships in Team Sports.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended the Presidents Council establish as championships policy an access ratio of 4.25 to 6 in team sports on which to determine brackets/field sizes.

This recommendation was among those referred from the Division II Implementation Committee to the Championships Committee for further review. In interactions with the Division II membership, the access ratio component of the championships structure package has been the most consistently supported during the span of review. The proposed range in the original recommendation was 4.5 to 6, but the Championships Committee subsequently decided, based on a review of current access ratios in all sports (see Attachment B), that expanding the ratio to 4.25 to 6 would further protect existing brackets in those sports sponsored by a large majority of the Division II membership.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council established as championships policy an access ratio of 4.25 to 6 in team sports on which to determine brackets/field sizes.

**v. Joint Men's Basketball Championship in 2026.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended the Presidents Council approve that the 2026 Division II Men's Basketball Championship game take place at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis as part of the Division I Men's Final Four.

Division II previously agreed to the concept of staging the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships in conjunction with the Division I Men's Final Four and Division I Women's Final Four twice over the next 10 years, and 2026 represents an excellent opportunity for men's basketball, as Indianapolis is a proven site for combined championships (the joint women's basketball championships were conducted there in 2016). The Championships Committee and Management Council acknowledge that 2026 also will be the first Division II Festival conducted specifically for men's and women's basketball. Accordingly, the recommendation means that the basketball festival would be shortened by one day, as the men's basketball championship game would be played in conjunction with the Men's Final Four rather than at the festival. The Championships Committee does not believe that compromises the festival but rather provides an enhanced opportunity for the two finalists that advance to Indianapolis.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved that the 2026 Division II Men's Basketball Championship game take place at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis as part of the Division I Men's Final Four.

**vi. Federated Playing Rules Process for Division II.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted the federated playing rules process developed for Division II (see Attachment C).

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an update regarding the adoption the federated playing rules process developed for Division II.

**vii. Nullification Transparency.**

Management Council. The Management Council modified the nullification process so that, in instances when nullification is applied, a general statement is included in the

bracket release indicating that nullification impacted selections. Further, the Council authorized the Division II Championships Committee to inform the affected regional advisory committee that nullification impacted selections.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an update regarding the modification to the nullification process.

**viii. Preliminary-Round Streaming Policy in Men's and Women's Basketball.**

Management Council. The Management Council amended the preliminary-round streaming policy to require basketball regional hosts to have multiple cameras (at least two).

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**ix Super Region Placements in Wrestling.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved placing the four newly sponsoring institutions (Frostburg State, Grand Valley State, Montevallo and Sioux Falls) into super regions.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**x. Sport and Rules Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following sport committee appointments:

(a) **Men's Basketball (immediate vacancy).** **Daryl Gross**, executive director of athletics at California State University, Los Angeles, to replace Mitch Cox, commissioner of the California Collegiate Athletic Association, who is retiring.

(b) **Men's and Women's Cross Country (September 1, 2023, vacancy).** **Randi Lydum**, director of athletics at Western Oregon University, to replace Chris Bradford, head cross country coach at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, due to term expiration.

- (c) **Field Hockey (immediate vacancy).** Renee Hellert, director of athletics at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, to replace Michael Cerino, director of athletics at Limestone University, who took a new position at the university outside of the athletics department.
- (d) **Field hockey (September 1, 2023, vacancy).** Rayelle Wallace, head field hockey coach at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, to replace Stacey Gaudette, head field hockey coach at Mercyhurst University, due to term expiration.
- (e) **Men's and Women's Track and Field (immediate vacancies).** Tabitha Bemis, assistant coach for cross country and track and field at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, to replace Melissa Ferry, head track and field coach at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, who resigned from the committee; and **Shane Drahota**, senior compliance administrator/senior deputy director of athletics/administration and student services at Minnesota State University, Mankato, to replace Brock Hime, head track and field coach at Arkansas Technological University, who resigned from the committee.
- (f) **Men's and Women's Track and Field (September 1, 2023, vacancy).** Nathan Cochran, director of athletics at Walsh University, to replace Doug Lipinsky, deputy director of athletics at Grand Valley State University, due to term expiration.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(3) **Degree Completion Award Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's May 11 videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(4) **Legislation Committee.**

**(a) April 19 Electronic Vote.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's April 19 electronic vote report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(b) June 28-29 In-Person Meeting.**

**i. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 12.5 -- Amateurism -- Use of Logos on Equipment, Uniforms and Apparel -- Incorporating into Playing and Practice Seasons Legislation.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to move Bylaw 12.5 (use of logos on equipment, uniforms and apparel) into Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons).

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**ii. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 13.1.1.2 -- Recruiting -- Contacts and Evaluations -- Contactable Prospective Student-Athletes -- Four- Year College Prospective Student-Athletes -- Removal of Notification of Recruitment Requirement.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 13.1.1.2 (four-year college prospective student-athletes) to eliminate the requirement that a Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send written notification of recruitment to a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) institution prior to having contact with an NAIA student-athlete.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**iii. Request for Feedback from NCAA Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators -- Bylaw 13 (Recruiting) and Bylaw 16 (Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes) – Membership Survey.**

Management Council. The Division II Management Council requested the Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators review the proposed membership survey

seeking feedback on the recommended concepts from Bylaw 13 (recruiting) and Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes) and provide feedback on whether the structure of the survey is manageable for the Division II membership.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(5) **Committee for Legislative Relief.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's June 30 electronic vote report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(6) **Membership Committee.**

(a) **Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaws 7.3.1.5.19.1 and 7.3.1.5.23 – Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership – Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey and Financial Data – Failure to Submit.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that the timing of the withholding of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution funds for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will be done with the next distribution.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) **Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaws 7.3.1.5.19.1 and 7.3.1.5.23 – Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership – Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey and Financial Data – Failure to Submit – Waiver Opportunity.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to establish a waiver opportunity for an institution's failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data by the legislated deadlines; further to specify that the Division II Membership Committee shall have final authority over waivers for an institution's failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data by the legislated deadlines.



Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(c) **NCAA Division II Membership Committee – Policy Related to Reporting Requirements during the Provisional Membership Process.**

Management Council. The Management Council amended the Membership Committee’s policy to require institutions in the provisional membership process to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data starting in year two of the provisional process.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(d) **Review of Annual Reports from Institutions in the Membership Process.**

Management Council. The Management Council noted that the Membership Committee had taken the following actions with regard to institutions in the membership process:

- i. Move the following institution to active member status, effective September 1, 2023:
  - D’Youville University.
- ii. Move the following institutions to provisional year three, effective September 1, 2023:
  - a. Allen University;
  - b. Edward Waters University; and
  - c. Emory & Henry College.
- iii. Move the following institutions to provisional year two, effective September 1, 2023:
  - a. Thomas More University;
  - b. University of South Carolina Beaufort; and
  - c. Westmont College.

- iv. Approved the following institutions to enter provisional year one, effective September 1, 2023:
  - a. Jessup University;
  - b. Menlo College;
  - c. Roosevelt University;
  - d. Sul Ross State University; and
  - e. Vanguard University.
- v. Did not accept the application of the following institution to enter provisional year one:
  - Talladega College.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the actions taken by the Membership Committee.

**(7) Nominating Committee.**

**(a) May 9 Videoconference.**

- **Committee Appointment.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an update that the Administrative Committee approved the following appointment:

- **Division II Nominating Committee (one immediate vacancy replacing Tony Duckworth).** **David Haase**, associate director of athletics, University of West Georgia, Gulf South Conference.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

[Note: The appointment noted above was approved May 22 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference.]

**(b) June 20 Videoconference.**

- **Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following appointments:

- i. **Division II Committee on Infractions (one immediate vacancy replacing Melissa Reilly).** **Amber Feldman**, deputy commissioner/senior woman administrator, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
- ii. **Division II Legislation Committee (two immediate vacancies replacing Kara Lindaman and Melinda Terry).** **Deborah Rodgers**, deputy chief athletic director/compliance, Tuskegee University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; and **Melissa Thacker**, faculty athletics representative, Cameron University, Lone Star Conference.
- iii. **Division II Membership Committee (one immediate vacancy replacing Jennifer Virgil).** **Troy Dell**, director of athletics, Frostburg State University, Mountain East Conference.
- iv. **Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee (six February 2024 vacancies – three three-year members and three four-year members).** **Curtis Janz**, director of athletics, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith, Lone Star Conference; **Brandi Laurita**, vice president for student affairs and athletics/senior woman administrator, University of Findlay, Great Midwest Athletic Conference; and **Frank Wu**, president, Queens College (New York) (three-year terms). **Joseph Arnold**, senior associate athletic director for compliance, Clark Atlanta University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; **Pennie Parker**, director of athletics, Rollins College, Sunshine State Conference; and **David Wilmes**, chief student affairs officer, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (four-year terms).

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the appointments, as recommended.

**(c) July 6 Electronic Vote.**

- **Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following appointments:

- Division II Committee on Infractions (one September 2023 vacancy).** Brooke Parsons, attorney, public member.
- NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (one September 2023 vacancy).** Dr. Jack Lewis Turban, doctor of psychiatry, public member.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the appointments, as recommended.

**(8) Planning and Finance Committee.**

**(a) Budget to Actual Report ending May 31.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the budget-to-actual report for the period ending May 31, 2023.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the budget-to-actual report for the period ending May 31, 2023.

**(b) April 20 Videoconference.**

- Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles.**

Management Council. The Management Council endorsed the amended Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary as the Presidents Council approved the Budget Guidelines and Principles during its April 2023 meeting.

- Division II Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2023-24.**

Management Council. The Management Council endorsed the budget requests for the 2023-24 fiscal year, as noted

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

<b>Request</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Championships Travel	\$682,152	Each year, NCAA accounting provides an estimate on expected travel inflation for Division II championships travel. NOTE: The Division II LRB projected a \$682,152 increase for championships travel expenses. The Planning and Finance Committee is requesting the full projected amount of \$682,152 and will allocate \$441,003 to new championships initiatives as part of the FY25 championships triennial budget process.
DII Championships Operations Right Sizing	\$222,232	Based on review of current championships expenses, the following items are requested based on an assessment of current expenditures vs budget. Additionally, some items were approved during the previous year based on health and safety and/or gender-equity review. The expenses include soccer travel and per diem; indoor and outdoor track and field supplemental officials; patches for all sports;

Request	Amount	Rationale
		softball bracket from 6 days to 7 days; baseball video replay; and officials at every court in tennis.
Revenue Distribution – Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund	\$173,228	Per the LRB, 3% increase.
Revenue Distribution – Institutional Equal Distribution Fund	\$57,742	Per the LRB, 3% increase.
Division II Championships Festival	\$50,000	Based on a review of expenses for the fall 2022 festival in Seattle and expected expenses in Orlando for the spring 2024 festival, these dollars will cover the increased costs associated with the special events at the festival (e.g., opening ceremonies, closing ceremonies, student-athlete lounges).
DII University	\$50,000	Per the LRB, to continue the development of new modules and maintenance of current modules.
Community Engagement at Championships	\$50,000	Each Division II national championship has a community engagement component. Given budget reductions

Request	Amount	Rationale
		following COVID, many youth organizations and schools no longer have funding (e.g., bus transportation costs) to pay expenses for students at these schools and organizations to attend Division II championships. These dollars will assist the needed funding to continue the division's community engagement outreach at championships as well as assist with the increased costs for shipping, giveaways and food and beverage.
NCAA Convention	\$35,000	This budget line item has not been increased in several years. With the increased cost of keynote speakers and food and beverage, these funds will assist with the Division II-specific costs at Convention.
Staff Travel	\$23,000	This request has been submitted as an Association-wide/national office budget request. In the event this request is not approved by the national office, the Division II governance staff is requesting an increase to the DII staff travel budget. Based on

Request	Amount	Rationale
		assessment of travel for FY23 and expected travel in FY24, this request will cover the increased costs associated with flights, hotel and food.
Drug-Testing Contract	\$10,256	Per the long-range budget – 2% inflationary increase to pay for Division II's portion of the Drug Free Sport contract.
Division II Student-Athlete Leadership Forum	\$8,000	To assist with increased costs for hotel, food and beverage and travel associated with the forum.
Additional Expenses for Services to Division II	\$4,800	Per the new NCAA Constitution and starting in FY23, an annual review will be conducted to validate additional Association service expenses that Division II pays for directly from its 4.37% allocation. Per for LRB, this is the 3% inflationary increase to this budget line item.
Reserve	\$82,807	Depending on the allocation for Division II championships travel and staff travel, the remaining funds will be placed in the reserve.
TOTAL	\$1,199,218	

Presidents Council. No action was necessary as the Presidents Council approved the Budget Guidelines and Principles during its April 2023 meeting. The Presidents



Council received a preview of the August 16 Planning and Finance Committee meeting.

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

**a. April 13 In-Person Meeting and May 10 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's April 13 in-person and May 10 videoconference reports.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**b. Verbal Update from July 14-15 In-Person Meeting.**

**i. Referral to Championships Committee and, Legislation Committee – Student-Athlete Representation.**

Management Council. The Management Council referred to the Championships Committee and Legislation Committee to discuss whether it would be beneficial to add a current or former Division II student-athlete to serve on the committee in addition to the current Division II National SAAC representative.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**ii. Referral to the Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee, Committee for Legislative Relief, Membership Committee and Nominating Committee – Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Representation.**

Management Council. The Management Council referred to the Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee, Committee for Legislative Relief, Membership Committee and Nominating Committee to discuss whether there is a need for SAAC representation on each of these Division II general committees that currently do not include a SAAC member.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(10) Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's June 15 in-person meeting report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**c. Division II Subcommittees and Project Teams.**

**(1) Convention Planning Project Team.**

- **2024 Convention Division II Schedule and Educational Programming.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the Division II schedule and educational programming for the 2024 Convention.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the Division II schedule and educational programming for the 2024 Convention.

**(2) Identity Subcommittee.**

- **Division II 50th Anniversary Scholarship Waiver.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved a blanket waiver to permit selected Division II student-athletes to receive the Division II 50th Anniversary Scholarship and allow for the scholarship to be exempt from the student-athlete's individual and team equivalency limit for the 2024-25 academic year.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**d. Association-Wide Committees.**

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

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's May 12 videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

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

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(3) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women’s Athletics Joint Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committees’ May 15 joint videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

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

• **April 20 and June 8 Videoconferences.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the panel's April 20 and June 8 videoconference reports.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(5) Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's June 5-6 in-person meeting report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(6) Walter Byers Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's April 23-24 in-person meeting report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**7. Open Forum.**

Management Council. The Management Council participated in an open forum session Tuesday morning. No formal action was taken.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**8. Management Council Issues.**

**a. Management Council Committee and Project Team Assignments.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed committee and project team assignments, noting those assignments that are open with the turnover in

Council representation. The Council was informed that if anyone was interested in being assigned to a specific committee or project team, they should inform the chair or one of the Division II staff members.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**b. Management Council Vice Chair Election Notice.**

Management Council. The Management Council was informed that Jerry Wollmering's position as vice chair of the Management Council would expire at the conclusion of the 2024 Convention. Individuals interested in seeking the position should voice that interest to the chair or the managing director of Division II.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**c. Management Council Chair Election Notice.**

Management Council. The Management Council was informed that Carrie Michael's position as chair of the Management Council would expire at the conclusion of the 2024 Convention. Individuals interested in seeking the position should voice that interest to the chair or the managing director of Division II.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**d. Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Summit.**

Management Council. The Management Council discussed the feedback received on the Summit that was held the previous weekend.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**9. Presidents Council Issues.**

**a. Discuss Aug. 1 Presentation on Gender Equity Phase II Progress Report.** The Presidents Council participated in a conversation regarding the gender equity assessment report.

**b. NCAA Business Review Update.** The Presidents Council participated in a joint videoconference with the Division I Board of Directors and the Division III Presidents Council to receive an update on the NCAA business review findings from President Charlie Baker.

**c. Update on Independent Member Nomination Process for the Division II Executive Board.** The Presidents Council was provided an update on the independent member nomination process. Presidents Council members were

encouraged to nominate members within their alumni or community that meet the qualifications.

- d. **Chair Election in October.** The Presidents Council was advised that a chair would be elected at the October meeting to serve from January 2024 to January 2025. President Council members who wish to serve should contact the vice president of Division II.

**10. National Office Updates.**

**a. Executive.**

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

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

**b. Legal.**

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

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

**c. Sport Science Institute.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including discussions on cannabis; discussions on concussion; mental health best practices; stakeholder athletic trainer meeting; and Division II Injury Surveillance Program participation numbers.

Presidents Council. The Presidents 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 discussions on cannabis; discussions on concussion; mental health best practices; stakeholder athletic trainer meeting; and Division II Injury Surveillance Program participation numbers.

**d. Division II 50th Anniversary.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the plans for the Division II 50th anniversary celebration.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council was provided an overview of the plans for the Division II 50th anniversary celebration.

**e. Inclusion Forum.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided a recap of the Division II enhanced attendance initiative at the NCAA Inclusion Forum.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**f. Division II ADA Mentor Program.**

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the ADA Mentor Program.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**g. Division II Community Engagement.**

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the community engagements efforts of the division at Division II national championships.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**h. Division II Coaches Connection Program.**

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the coaches connection program.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**11. Affiliated Association Updates.**

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the activities of the following affiliated associations. The Council endorsed the Division II Model Athletics Department document that was developed by the Division II Athletics Directors Association. No additional action was needed.

**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 Administrators Association.**
- f. **National Association for Athletics Compliance.**
- g. **Women Leaders in College Sports.**

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council endorsed the Division II Model Athletics Department Document.

**12. Other Business.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**13. Meeting Recap/Things to Report Back to Conference.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a list of topics/issues to report to its member institutions. These topics included: 2024 Convention information; legislation for the 2024 Convention; Championship Committee updates, including access ratio for championships in team sports, federated rules process for Division II, nullification transparency, and preliminary-round streaming policy in men's and women's basketball; student-athlete congressional engagement template letter; 50th anniversary information; Division II Model Athletics Department Document, independent member nomination information for the Division II Executive Board; awards and scholarships opportunities; and the Management Council meeting article.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**14. Future Meetings.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the upcoming meetings for 2023 through January 2025.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the upcoming meetings for 2023 through January 2024.

**15. Adjournment.**

Management Council. The Management Council adjourned at 11:44 a.m. Eastern time July 17.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council adjourned at 3:43 p.m. Eastern time August 2.

<b>June 8, 2023, Division II Management Council and Division II Presidents Council; July 17-18, 2023, Management Council; and August 2, 2023, Presidents Council</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
<b>Management Council</b>	<b>Presidents Council</b>
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	Roslyn Artis, Benedict College ( <i>June 8</i> )
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	Michaela Boyd, Palm Beach Atlantic University
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive	Carlos Campo, Ashland University
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Mark Corino, Caldwell University ( <i>June 8</i> )	John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	Donna Henry, University of Virginia's College at Wise
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	Steven Shirley, Minot State University
Theresa Hanson, Simon Fraser University ( <i>June 8</i> )	William Thierfelder, Belmont Abbey College
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California	Blake Thompson, Mississippi College
Kristi Kiefer Fairmont State University	Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University ( <i>June 8</i> )	Frank Wu, Queen College (New York)
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College	
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University ( <i>July 17-18</i> )	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	



Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	
Bo Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University	
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	
Vaughn Williams, director of athletics, Bentley University	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University ( <i>June 8</i> )	Roslyn Artis, Benedict College ( <i>August 2</i> )
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive ( <i>June 8</i> )	Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania ( <i>June 8</i> )
Mark Corino, Caldwell University ( <i>July 17-18</i> )	Donna Henry, University of Virginia's College at Wise ( <i>June 8</i> )
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University ( <i>June 8</i> )	William Thierfelder, Belmont Abbey College ( <i>June 8</i> )
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University ( <i>June 8</i> )	Blake Thompson, Mississippi College ( <i>June 8</i> )
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines ( <i>June 8</i> )	Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University
Theresa Hanson, Simon Fraser University ( <i>July 17-18</i> )	
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University ( <i>July 17-18</i> )	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Bo Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Vaughn Williams, director of athletics, Bentley University ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University ( <i>June 8</i> )	
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>	
Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University ( <i>July 17-18</i> )	Gary Brown, NCAA contractor ( <i>August 2</i> )
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Gary Brown, NCAA contractor ( <i>July 17-18</i> )	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas ( <i>June 8</i> )	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs ( <i>June 8</i> )	

Anthony Holloman, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association <i>(July 17-18)</i>	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul <i>(June 8)</i>	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University <i>(June 8)</i>	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association <i>(June 8)</i>	
Jill Willson, NCAA Contractor <i>(July 17-18)</i>	
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Charlie Baker <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Rachel Denton <i>(July 17-18)</i> , Jenn Fraser <i>(July 17-18)</i> , Haydyn Gibson <i>(June 8)</i> , Terri Steeb Gronau, Brian Hainline <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Kendee Hilliard <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Julie Kimmons <i>(June 8)</i> , Karen Kirsch, David Lafiosca <i>(August 2)</i> , Micaela Liddane <i>(June 8, July 17-18)</i> , Jordan Lysiak, Corbin McGuire <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Rebecca Burchette Medel <i>(June 8)</i> , Mario Morris <i>(August 2)</i> , John Parsons <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Stephanie Quigg <i>(July 17-18)</i> , Angela Red, Anne Rohlman <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Rachel Seewald <i>(July 17-18)</i> , Jared Tidemann <i>(July 17-18, August 2)</i> , Robert Turick and Jill Waddell.	

## NCAA Division II Academic Guiding Principles

Below is a list of guiding principles as it relates to academics and the role of the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee:

1. Division II is committed to protecting the well-being of our student-athletes.
2. Division II supports a “student-first” philosophy.
3. The Division II Academic Requirements Committee is the gatekeeper for the division as it relates to student-athlete academic readiness prior to initial enrollment and academic success after enrollment that will encourage career development towards life-long goals post-graduation.
4. The academic requirements shall support the philosophy of the division.
5. Recommendations for change shall be data driven and provide the opportunity for access to athletically related financial aid, practice, and competition.
6. The certification of requirements will support and promote administrative efficiency when possible.

# ATTACHMENT B

	Number of Teams Sponsoring <i>do not include reclassifying or provisional</i>	Total Athletes (Taken from Sports Sponsorship Participation Rates Report)	Championship Bracket/Field Size	Access Ratio*
Men's Cross Country (individual)	264	3,949	262	15.07
Women's Cross Country (individual)	284	3,795	262	14.48
Men's Cross Country (team)	264	3,949	34	7.76
Women's Cross Country (team)	284	3,795	34	8.35
Women's Field Hockey	35	925	6	5.83
Football	161	20,346	28	5.75
Men's Soccer	200	7,414	40	5.00
Women's Soccer	252	8,024	56	4.50
Volleyball	283	5,349	64	4.42
Men's Basketball	296	5,567	64	4.63
Women's Basketball	294	4,912	64	4.59
Men's Swimming & Diving	75	1,732	175	9.90
Women's Swimming & Diving	99	2,249	205	10.97
Men's Indoor Track & Field	180	6,753	270	25.01
Women's Indoor Track & Field	205	6,600	270	24.44
Wrestling	64	2,243	180	12.46
Baseball	247	11,452	56	4.41
Men's Golf (individual)	218	2,355	108	5.45
Women's Golf (individual)	193	1,646	98	6.23
Men's Golf (team)	218	2,355	80	2.73
Women's Golf (team)	193	1,646	48	4.02
Men's Lacrosse	75	3,393	12	6.25
Women's Lacrosse	113	2,906	16	7.06
Women's Rowing	12	439	6	2.00
Softball	272	6,419	64	4.25
Men's Tennis	147	1,642	48	3.06
Women's Tennis	202	1,980	48	4.21
Men's Outdoor Track & Field	222	8,052	377	21.36
Women's Outdoor Track & Field	251	7,923	377	21.02

## Individual team sports

\* Access ratio determined as follows: Team Sports (Number of teams sponsoring/bracket size); Individual-team sports (Total athletes/field size)

Men's Swimming***	75	1,663	175	9.50
Women's Swimming***	99	2,130	205	10.39
Men's Diving**	26	69	18	3.83
Women's Diving**	30	119	22	5.41

\*\* Swimming and diving sponsorship data is collected jointly through membership reports. The diving membership was asked to complete a survey reporting their current diving specific sponsorship and roster numbers. This reporting did not come from a formalized request, but provides context between the varying sponsorship of swimming and diving.

\*\*\* Swimming data with the removal of diving data.

## Division II Process for Federated Review of Playing Rules

The process outlined below for establishing Division II specific playing rules is consistent with the current process that is used for common rules.

### 1. INFORMATION GATHERING STAGE

During the nonchampionship and championship seasons, the secretary-rules editor and rules committee members compile hot topics from coaches, commissioners, athletics administrators and other stakeholders (e.g., coaches associations, sport management committees, officials, etc.). A Call for Proposals is sent to all head coaches and conference commissioners. Topics are presented and discussed at the coach's convention, if possible.

A rules survey is conducted to determine membership positions on certain issues.

If, based on Division II specific input/information gathered from the rules survey, there does not seem to be a majority support for a specific rules change, the Division II Championships Committee (or a subcommittee of the Championships Committee), along with the Division II members of the rules committee if time permits, will review this initial feedback and determine next steps (e.g., consider a federated playing rule).

### 2. ANNUAL RULES COMMITTEE MEETING

The rules committee meets to discuss and vote on rules proposals.

In order to maintain an appropriate level of consistency among divisions, rules changes should initially be considered as common for all divisions. In particular, rules changes related to fundamental, foundational aspects of the sport or that have a health and safety impact should be recommended as common proposals.

However, based on Division II specific input/information gathered, the Division II member(s) of the rules committee may recommend and vote on rules proposals that are specific to Division II.

Prior to the annual rules committee meeting, the Division II member(s) of the rules committee will meet with the members of the relevant Division II sports committee to provide additional Division II perspectives on the proposals for consideration.

A simple majority vote of Division II rules committee members is required to approve a proposal for the division.

### 3. COMMENT PERIOD

After the annual meeting, a list of proposals approved by the rules committee is sent to head coaches, conference commissioners and athletics directors for feedback. This two-week comment period allows the membership to see and respond to the final language of the proposals.

4. RULES COMMITTEE REVIEW OF COMMENT PERIOD RESULTS

At the end of the two-week comment period, the rules committee meets to review the comment period results and qualitative feedback. The respective Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) representative participates in this meeting. The rules committee determines which proposals to send forward to PROP for final consideration.

The Division II members of the rules committee determine which Division II specific proposals to forward to PROP for final consideration. Prior to the review of the comment period results, the Division II member(s) of the rules committee will meet with the members of the relevant Division II sports committee to provide additional Division II perspectives on the proposals for consideration.

A simple majority vote of the Division II rules committee members is required.

5. PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

PROP reviews all proposals the rules committee recommends and all feedback from the membership during the two-week comment period.

A recommendation from a rules committee shall be considered valid unless PROP determines that the recommendation harms the image of the games, creates an unsafe environment for student-athletes or places an unreasonable financial burden on the membership. PROP may request that playing rules committee chairs and/or secretary-rules editors present their cases to PROP when proposed changes are controversial or unusually complicated.

The full PROP votes on common rules proposals. The Division II members of PROP vote on Division II specific proposals. In addition, if a common rules proposal is not supported by the full PROP, the Division II members of the panel may vote to determine whether the proposal is approved for Division II.

Rules approved by PROP (or, for Division II specific rules, the Division II members of the Panel) are final and incorporated into the next edition of the rules book.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
AUGUST 1, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**KEY ITEMS.**

The NCAA Board of Governors voted to:

1. Establish an Association-wide post-eligibility injury insurance program, effective August 1, 2024;
2. Sunset the Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement & Action, effective upon adjournment of the August 1, 2023, videoconference; and
3. Appoint the preferred candidate, as a new independent member to replace Grant Hill, effective upon adjournment of the August 1, 2023, videoconference, contingent on the candidate's acceptance.

*[Note: Following the videoconference, the preferred candidate indicated they were unable to serve and declined the appointment.]*

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the meeting at approximately 1:07 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the Governors. President Livingstone noted that this was the last meeting for President John DeGioia and Grant Hill and thanked them for their service on the board.
2. **Consent Agenda.** By way of a consent agenda, the Board of Governors approved six items including: (a) the April 25, 2023, videoconference report; (b) the Board of Governors Executive Committee Charter; (c) the appointment of Dr. Michara Delaney- Fields, Chief Diversity Officer at Stephen F. Austin State University and Dr. Ron Darbeau, Chancellor of Pennsylvania State University Altoona, to the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity; (d) updates to the Board of Governors Policies and Procedures; (e) the appointment of Isaiah Swann, as the voting graduated student-athlete member effective following the conclusion of the August 2023 meeting through the conclusion of the August 2024 meeting; and (f) the amount of divisional membership dues, as specified, for the 2023-24 academic year.
3. **Feedback from divisional presidential bodies via the consultative process.** Presidents Mary-Beth Cooper, Livingstone and Steven Shirley provided the board with an update on the use of the consultative process with the divisional presidential bodies prior to the videoconference to solicit comment and feedback on potential board action and discussion.

4. **Key findings from the NCAA National Office Business Review.** President Charlie Baker highlighted the key findings and trends from the NCAA national office business review, which began in the spring. President Baker facilitated discussion with the board about next steps, and informed the board that the key findings would be shared with the divisional presidential governance bodies during a joint meeting on Wednesday, August 2. He further noted that it is anticipated that a business plan would be shared with the board during its October meeting.
5. **Update and next steps regarding congressional engagement and action.** President Baker and NCAA staff provided an update on the progress with congressional engagement and action. It was noted that various, bi-partisan members of Congress introduced four draft bills prior to the August recess. NCAA staff provided a highlight of the draft bills and updated the board on membership outreach efforts.

- a. **Post-eligibility medical care.** President Baker and NCAA staff provided an update on the analysis for funding an Association-wide post-eligibility injury insurance program, which is similar to the NCAA catastrophic injury insurance program. It was noted that the program will cover two years of medical coverage following graduation or the completion of a student-athlete's eligibility/athletic experience if they sustain an athletically related injury. It was also noted that NCAA staff will develop a timeline and release educational materials (e.g., FAQ) prior to the effective date of the program. Beth DeBauche, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, noted the committee's approval to allocate association-wide funds for the post-eligibility injury insurance program, if ultimately approved by the Board of Governors.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors approve an Association-wide post-eligibility injury insurance program, effective August 1, 2024." **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- b. **Next Steps for the Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement & Action.** President John DeGioia, chair of the subcommittee and Board of Governors member, noted that the subcommittee has not met since March after it directed NCAA President Baker and NCAA staff to continue meeting with members of Congress to assist with the development of the NCAA's potential framework for federal legislation. In addition, President DeGioia noted that the full board has been engaged on matters pertaining to congressional engagement and action, and as such, the subcommittee was no longer necessary.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors approve sunseting the NCAA Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement & Action, effective upon adjournment of the August 1, 2023, videoconference." **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

6. **NCAA Sport Science Institute/NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports update.** The NCAA chief medical officer provided several



updates on the work of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

- a. **NCAA drug-testing policy and elimination of testing for cannabis.** The board received a report on potential recommendations from the Drug-Testing Subcommittee of CSMAS regarding the elimination of cannabis testing at NCAA championships and the removal of cannabinoids from the list of banned drug classes. The board agreed that CSMAS should consider recommending the appropriate divisional governance bodies take the necessary legislative action to eliminate the cannabinoid class from the NCAA banned drug list before addressing the NCAA championships' drug-testing policy.
  - b. **NCAA Mental Health Best Practices.** The board continued its discussions on proposed updates to the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices document. Socialization of the proposed updates to the document will occur with the membership throughout the remainder of 2023 before the updated best practices document is provided to the board for consideration during the January 2024 in-person meeting. It is anticipated that the updated best practice document will be released to the membership at the 2024 NCAA Convention.
  - c. **NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist and membership engagement.** The board received a report from the CSMAS Concussion Safety Advisory Group regarding an updated consensus statement on concussion in sport that was released in mid-June. The consensus statement included revised recommendations on concussion diagnoses, management, and prevention, which will require a review and possible amendments to the NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol and other relevant member resources. It was noted that CSMAS will meet in early fall to continue its discussions on this topic.
  - d. **Athletic training stakeholders meeting update.** The board discussed an athletic training stakeholders meeting held in June, which was attended by presidents and chancellors, athletics administrators, athletics trainers and other health care administrators representing the three divisions to discuss the challenges with the hiring and retention of qualified athletic trainers. It was noted that continued discussions will occur throughout the fall regarding the development of strategies and educational resources for institutions.
7. **Report from consultant regarding NCAA contracts involving media rights agreements.** Representatives from Endeavor, the consultants selected to prepare the Association for media rights negotiations following the expiration of the NCAA's media rights agreement with ESPN in 2024, joined the board for continued discussions on this topic.
  8. **Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee report.** Beth DeBauche, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, presented the committee's report.

- a. **FY 2022-23 external audit plan presented by Crowe.** The Finance and Audit Committee shared the external financial audit plan for the 2022-23 fiscal year as presented by Crowe, noting that the committee had no concerns with the materials presented.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the FY 2022-23 external audit plan.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- b. **FY 2022-23 NCAA Enterprise Risk Management risk assessment and internal audit plan.** The Finance and Audit Committee presented the internal audit plan for the 2022-23 fiscal year, which is performed annually by NCAA staff.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the fiscal year 2022-23 enterprise risk management risk assessment and internal audit plan.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- c. **Third quarter fiscal year 2022-23 budget-to-actual review.** The committee reviewed a comparison of actual revenues and expenses versus budgeted revenues and expenses through the third quarter of this fiscal year.

9. **FY 2023-24 budget requests and recommendations.** Beth DeBauche provided the board with additional detail on NCAA finances and presented the budget requests and recommendations for FY 2023-24.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the budget requests and recommendations, as presented, for fiscal year 2023-24.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

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

- a. **NCAA Board of Governors Executive Committee report.** President Livingstone reported on matters discussed by the Executive Committee since the board adopted the new composition of the committee in April. She noted that one of the primary agenda items during its meetings focused on the search for a new independent member to replace Grant Hill following the August videoconference, as the Executive Committee served as the nominating committee for this process.

- **Approval of new independent member.** President Livingstone presented the Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve a preferred candidate, as the new independent member, effective upon adjournment of the August meeting, contingent on the candidate’s acceptance. The candidate will serve a two-year term, which is renewable for another two years.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the appointment of the preferred candidate as the new independent member of the board, contingent on the candidate’s acceptance.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

*[Note: Following the videoconference, the preferred candidate indicated they were unable to serve and declined the appointment.]*

- b. **Timeline for NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence attestation.** The board was informed of the new deadline for institutions to complete the annual attestation of the Policy on Campus Sexual Violence, specifically that the deadline was moved from mid-May to the first Friday of November. The deadline for the 2022-23 academic year attestation is Friday, November 3, 2023. NCAA staff noted that an update on the annual attestation would be presented to the board during its January 2024 meeting.
- **Simon Fraser University compliance with Item Nos. 4-6 of the policy for the 2022-23 academic year.** The board reviewed a request from Simon Fraser University, a Division II member institution in Canada, to be exempt from complying with Item Nos. 4-6 of the Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence for the 2022-23 academic year. The institution noted that its compliance with the policy requirements present difficulties with Canadian and British Columbian privacy laws. NCAA staff highlighted that Item Nos. 4-6 of the policy are new requirements regarding student-athlete disclosure related to their conduct that institutions must attest to for the first time in the 2022-23 academic year.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors deny the request from Simon Fraser University for relief, including partial relief, as the Policy on Campus Sexual Violence does not provide for a waiver of the policy. In addition, the Board of Governors agrees that the institution can meet Item Nos. 4-6 of the policy by establishing a process that is compliant with Canadian and British Columbian privacy laws.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

- c. **Update on Association-wide committees.** Subsequent to the videoconference, the board was notified via Boardvantage of the ongoing work regarding its review of Association-wide committees to determine their relevance, assess whether potential changes would better align the committees’ work with the new constitution and determine how to streamline the Association-wide governance structure.
- (1) **Review of the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct and NCAA Olympic Sports Liaisons Committee.** The board was notified that its recommendation to eliminate the Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct was reviewed and approved by the divisional councils in April and July; thus, the committee has been eliminated from the

Association-wide governance structure. It was further noted that the board's recommendation to eliminate the Olympic Sports Liaisons Committee was reviewed and approved in concept by the Divisions II and III Management Councils during their July meetings. The Division I Council will review and act on the board's recommendation during its October meeting. The board will receive an update on the status of the Olympic Sports Liaisons Committee and the continued review of the remaining Association-wide committees during its October and January 2024 meetings.

- (2) **Timeline for review of NCAA Diversity Equity and Inclusion committees.** The board was notified of the proposed timeline for the review of the four NCAA Association-wide DEI committees (the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, the Committee on Women's Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, and the Gender Equity Task Force). It was noted that it is anticipated that these four committees will begin discussions this fall with the expectation of reporting to the board during its January 2024 meeting.

11. **Other business.** The board did not have other business.
12. **Executive session.** The board convened in executive session.
13. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:13 p.m. Eastern time.

Report of the NCAA Board of Governors

August 1, 2023, Videoconference

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*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 August 1, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Charlie Baker, NCAA president.	
Bryce Choate, Graduated Division I student-athlete.	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College.	
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.	
John DeGioia, Georgetown University.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Madeleine McKenna, Graduated Division II student-athlete.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.	
Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University.	
Steven Shirley, Minot State University.	
Isaiah Swann, Graduated Division III student-athlete.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Surgeon General.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Grant Hill, CBS/Warner Media/Atlanta Hawks.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Karen Brodtkin, Endeavor.	
Andrew Demsey, Endeavor.	
Brian Higgins, NCAA independent contractor.	
Hilary Mandel, Endeavor.	
Josh Workman, Endeavor.	
<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, Joni Comstock, Kelly Dodds, Dan Gavitt, Brain Hainline, Charlie Henry, Lynn Holzman, Julie Kimmons, David Lafiosca, Kevin Lennon, Felicia Martin, Louise McCleary, Mario Morris, John Parsons, Greg Pottorff, Dave Schnase and Stan Wilcox.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
August 15, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the videoconference at approximately 3 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the Governors.
2. **Executive Session.** The board convened in executive session.
  - **Legal and litigation update.** NCAA general counsel facilitated a privileged and confidential discussion regarding several matters of ongoing litigation.
3. **Other business.** President Livingstone provided an update on the status of the nominee that was voted to replace Grant Hill as one of the independent members on the Board of Governors. Hill's term ended after the Board of Governors meeting on Aug. 1, 2023.
4. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:05 p.m. Eastern time.

NCAA Board of Governors March 16, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Charlie Baker, NCAA.	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College.	
Bryce Choate, Graduated Division I student-athlete.	
Houston Davis, Central Arkansas University.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Madeleine McKenna, Graduated Division II student-athlete.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.	
Steven Shirley, Minot State University.	
Isaiah Swann, Graduated Division III student-athlete.	
Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Surgeon General.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.	
Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Scott Bearby and Mario Morris.	



## Interim Actions of the NCAA Division II Administrative Committee

1. On August 30, the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following items:
  - a. **Presidents Council-Sponsored Legislation for the 2024 NCAA Convention in Legislative Form.** The Administrative Committee reviewed the proposals that were approved in concept by the Management Council and Presidents Council during their July and August meetings. The committee approved the proposals in legislative form.
  - b. **Noncontroversial Legislation.** The committee adopted in legislative form one noncontroversial proposal that had previously been approved in concept (Proposal No. NC-2024-18), as presented. The proposal is listed below.
    - **Amateurism -- Use of Logos on Equipment, Uniforms and Apparel – Incorporating into Playing and Practice Seasons Legislation,** which moves the use of logos on equipment, uniforms and apparel legislation into the playing and practice seasons legislation.
  - c. **Neutrality in Championships Preliminary Rounds for Team Sports.** The committee approved policy that permits preliminary round hosts in all team sports to run the same kind of pregame promotions and celebrations they conduct during the regular-season contests before resuming neutrality during the course of the contest.
  - d. **Management Council Committee and Project Team Assignments.** Due to the resignations of Curtis Campbell, Theresa Hanson and Corbin Thaete, the committee approved the following appointments noting that the remaining vacancies will be filled after the elections in October.
    - (1) **Cindy McKnight:** Added Division II Membership Committee; and
    - (2) **Austin Mondello:** Added Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee.
2. On September 11, the Administrative Committee approved the following item:
  - **Temporary Extension of Term for Chair of NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions (COI).** The committee approved a temporary extension of the term of COI chair John David Lackey, who is presently engaged in an ongoing infractions case until such time as this pending case is fully resolved.



# 2023-24 Division II Priorities



## DIVISION II 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

A yearlong commemorative marketing campaign, which launched in August, includes 50th anniversary lapel pins, a \$200 signage credit, logos and social media editable graphics, a communications toolkit, a promotional video, and jersey patches. In addition, the division will honor one individual who identifies as male and one individual who identifies as female with a 50th Anniversary Gold Award for making a positive impact in Division II. The division also will provide a \$1,000 scholarship opportunity for student-athletes from active member schools who exhibit the core values of Division II and have not yet exhausted their athletics eligibility.

## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS

Starting Feb. 1, 2024, the Division II governance structure will implement the following changes adopted at the 2023 Convention to better support the Division II governance structure:

- The Presidents Council will transition to a nimbler Executive Board, which incorporates independent voices and focuses more on strategic discussions.
- The Management Council will take on more responsibilities and decision-making for the day-to-day operations of the division while adding new and diverse positions and voices around the table.
- The Planning and Finance Committee will transition to the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, which will be a stand-alone committee focused on overseeing Division II financial affairs and the division's strategic plan and strategic priorities.



## IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE REFERRALS

The Division II Implementation Committee, which was established to review the division's bylaws and policies to align with the new NCAA Constitution, developed more than two dozen initiatives and enhancements that were adopted but also referred several concepts to existing bodies within the Division II governance structure for further review, including:

- Decide whether changes to the current rules related to progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfers could be made without jeopardizing the academic success of student-athletes. *[Division II Academic Requirements Committee]*
- Determine the appropriate minimum sponsorship requirement necessary to create/maintain a Division II championship in a given sport; determine the appropriate range of access ratios that in turn determine bracket/field size by sport; and solidify automatic qualification as a defined benchmark rather than a sport committee's recommendation. *[Division II Championships Committee and relevant sport committees]*
- Decide which athletics eligibility, recruiting and benefits restrictions, if any, are unnecessary and should be eliminated. *[Division II Legislation Committee]*

## NEW DII UNIVERSITY MODULES

DIIU will add modules this year focused on:

- Training for the Make Game Day Yours initiative to help Division II members enhance their game day experience and customer service to fans.
- Educational outreach to help faculty athletics representatives support student-athletes.
- Messaging about Division II's unique characteristics and attributes.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS PRIORITIES

**Spring 2024 Festival.** The first spring National Championships Festival in eight years will take place May 19-25 in Orlando, Florida featuring men's and women's golf, women's lacrosse, softball, and men's and women's tennis.

**Triennial Budget Process.** The Championships Committee will finalize recommendations as part of the 2024-27 triennial budget cycle in September 2023.

**Championship Site Selection.** The process for 2026-28 championships sites will launch in September 2023 and conclude in February 2024. The Championships Committee and relevant sport committees will review bids and announce sites in October 2024.



## MEDIA RIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS

The broadcasting agreements with ESPN, CBS and CBS Sports Network involving the Division II football semifinals and championship game and the Division II men's and women's basketball semifinals and finals conclude in 2024. Future broadcasting arrangements will focus on elevating the championship experience further, not only for the student-athletes participating but also for Division II members and their fans.

## MAKE IT YOURS BRAND ENHANCEMENT

Division II is undertaking a three-phase engagement that seeks to further understand the perception of Division II among prospective student-athletes and those who influence where they choose to attend college. It also aims to determine where and how they engage with college sports. The data gathered through consumer research will help determine an activation plan that will launch in 2024.

## STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The division will continue developing its next six-year strategic plan that will launch in January 2026 by asking committees and affiliate groups to draft goals and priorities for the membership's review and feedback.

## DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

The Division II SAAC will focus on the three E's – empower student-athletes with resources, empathize with their concerns, and enhance their voice and experience. As part of the empower theme, SAAC members will concentrate on congressional engagement and Life After the Game (preparing student-athletes for life after athletics). For the empathize theme, they will focus on mental health and diversity, equity and inclusion. For the enhance theme, they will use the new Division II SAAC Instagram to share resources and information, will finalize a campus SAAC guide and will refresh a conference SAAC guide to share best practices on a variety of topics.

## NCAA SURVEY RESULTS

**Wagering and Social Environments Survey.** This national survey of college student-athletes is scheduled to occur during 2023-24 in collaboration with campus faculty athletics representatives. The study will ask questions about the social environments of student-athletes, as well as assess opinions toward gambling and sports wagering among current student-athletes.

**Student-Athlete Health and Wellness Survey.** Division II will benefit from data obtained through the 2022-23 national survey of college student-athletes that examined topics including student-athlete mental health concerns and peer support, sleep behaviors, attitudes toward weight and body image, nutrition, competition and injury history, and substance use experiences.

## DII SAAC SUPER REGION CONVENTION

The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will conduct its sixth super region convention Nov. 17-19 in Atlanta for the South Region (Conference Carolinas, Gulf South Conference, Peach Belt Conference, South Atlantic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Sunshine State Conference and independents). The super region convention effectively increases student-athlete engagement within Division II governance and decision making.







## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP

### **Women Leaders in College Sports Governance Academy**

*September 2023*

Women Leaders in College Sports and Division II have partnered on this initiative since 2012 to provide educational and networking opportunities for female administrators in Division II.

### **FAR Fellows Institute**

*September 2023*

Educational programming for faculty athletics representatives to help them effectively perform their roles and support student-athletes.

### **APPLE Training Institute**

*February 2024*

In partnership with the Gordie Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the division will host the fifth Division II-specific APPLE Training Institute in Orlando, Florida. The event provides funding for administrator and student-athlete teams

from more than 30 Division II schools to attend and create action plans to implement on campus.

### **Athletic Trainers**

*June 2024*

Three from each Division II conference and one representing independent institutions will participate in three days of professional development.

### **Minority Opportunities Athletic Association Governance Academy**

*June 2024*

MOAA and Division II have partnered on this initiative since 2009 to provide educational and networking opportunities for minority administrators in Division II.

### **Compliance Administrators**

*June 2024*

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**

*2023-24*

In partnership with the Division II Athletics Directors Association, the division provides a unique opportunity for women and minorities interested in a career as a Division II director of athletics.

### **New AD Orientation**

*2023-24*

In partnership with the D2ADA, the division provides programming for new athletics directors in Division II, including an orientation session with a discussion of championships, identity initiatives and financial information.



DIVISION II

**MAKE IT YOURS**

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2024 NCAA Convention  
Division II Core Schedule of Events

**Wednesday, January 10**

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Division II Management Council Meeting
11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.	NCAA Board of Governors Meeting
12:30 to 4 p.m.	Association-Wide and Menu Sessions
5 to 6:30 p.m.	Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception

**Thursday, January 11**

8 to 11 a.m.	Division II Presidents Council/Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Breakfast and Meeting
8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.	Breakfast for New Division II Athletics Directors
8:45 to 11 a.m.	Menu Sessions
11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Division II Presidents Council Meeting
11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Division II Management Council Mentor/Mentee Meeting and Lunch
1 to 4:30 p.m.	Association-Wide and Menu Sessions
4:45 to 5:45	Woman of the Year Presentation
5:45 to 7 p.m.	NCAA Delegates Reception
7:30 to 9 p.m.	Division II Management Council Toast

**Friday, January 12**

8 to 9 a.m.	Division II Delegates Breakfast
7:30 to 10:15 a.m.	Division II Chancellors and Presidents Breakfast
9 to 10:15 a.m.	Division II Education Sessions
10:30 to Noon	Keynote Session

1 to 5:30 p.m.	Division II Conference Meetings
5 to 6 p.m.	Division II Faculty Mentor Award Presentation and Reception
6 to 7 p.m.	FARA Reception

**Saturday, January 13**

7 to 8 a.m.	Delegates Breakfast
8 a.m. 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 some are still being discussed and subject to change.



A G E N D A

National Collegiate Athletic Association  
Joint Breakfast and Meeting of the Division II Presidents Council, Management Council and  
Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

TBD Room  
Phoenix Convention Center

January 11, 2024  
8 to 11 a.m.

1. Buffet breakfast. *(Available at 7:45 a.m.)*
2. Opening remarks. [Supplement Nos. 1, 2 and 3] (Steven Shirley) *(8:15 to 8:20 a.m.)*
3. Update on work by the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. (Emma Kramer) *(8:20 to 8:35 a.m.)*
4. Update on development of Division II Operating Plan. (Colleen Perry Keith) *(8:35 to 8:40 a.m.)*
5. Roundtable discussion – Division II Operating Plan. *(8:40 to 9:10 a.m.)*
6. Reporting out. (Keith) *(9:10 to 9:25 a.m.)*
7. Break. *(9:25 to 9:35 a.m.)*
8. Update on Division II results from the NCAA Student-Athlete Health and Wellness Survey. (Kelsey Gurganus-Wright and Robert Turick) *(9:35 to 9:55 a.m.)*
9. Roundtable discussion – NCAA Student-Athlete Health and Wellness Survey. *(9:55 to 10:15 a.m.)*
10. Reporting out. (Turick) *(10:15 to 10:30 a.m.)*
11. Professional development roundtable discussions. (Ben Cherry) *(10:30 to 10:55 a.m.)*
12. Concluding remarks. (Shirley) *(10:55 to 11 a.m.)*



## 118th Annual Convention

This educational resource presents all proposed amendments to NCAA Division II legislation that were properly submitted in accordance with the July 15 deadline (for membership-sponsored proposals) and September 1 deadline (for Presidents Council proposals) in the NCAA legislative calendar. The proposals herein appear in the order in which they would appear, if adopted, in the NCAA Division II Manual. No attempt has been made to place them in topical groupings or in the order in which they eventually might appear in the NCAA Convention agenda. Each proposal is accompanied not only by the traditional statement of intent and proposed effective date, but also by a statement of rationale.

No new proposals may be submitted for the 2024 Convention inasmuch as the July 15 and September 1 deadlines have passed. Member institutions and conferences, as well as the Division II Presidents Council, have until 5 p.m. Eastern time November 1 to submit amendments to these proposals. Such amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification set forth in the printed proposal. Amendments-to-amendments submitted by the membership must have eight sponsors from active member institutions in Division II. In addition, amendments-to-amendments may be sponsored by at least one member conference (on behalf of eight or more of their active member institutions) in Division II. It should be noted that proposals that are withdrawn after the September 15 sponsor-modification deadline will be included in the Official Notice to indicate the sponsor's intent to withdraw the proposal at the Convention.

Member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations (see below) of the proposed legislation in this educational resource.

### **Request for Interpretation.**

Member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations of the proposed legislation in this educational resource. Interpretations related to the proposed legislation in this educational resource may be requested via electronic mail to the primary contact persons at [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org) or [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org), not later than December 14, 2023. When submitting such a request, please include the proposal number in question, your institution's name and your title. All resulting interpretations will be made available to the delegates prior to the divisional business session held in conjunction with the annual Convention.

Pursuant to NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.3.6.2.1, the first official publication will be the Official Notice of the 2024 Convention and will be released no later than December 10, 2023. This publication will contain all Division II legislation for the Convention, including all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions submitted by the November 1 deadline.

### **2023-24 Legislative Calendar.**

The legislative calendar, as set forth in Bylaw 9, is summarized here for convenience of reference.

July 15: Deadline for submission of amendments by the Division II membership. Each amendment must include a statement of intent and a separate statement of rationale (200 words or less), as well as identification of the designated primary contact person.

August 2: Presidents Council Consideration. The NCAA Division II Presidents Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. The Presidents Council also reviews the amendments submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline. See "July 15" above. The Presidents Council reviewed these proposals to determine committee review assignments.

August 15 through September 15: Sponsor-Modification Period. Sponsors are permitted to refine and change their proposals in any manner germane to the original proposal. Member institutions and conferences are invited to offer any suggested revisions of a proposal to the primary contact person listed with the proposal. Additionally, members that believe an amendment should not be modified should so inform the primary contact person.

August 30: Administrative Committee Videoconference. On behalf of the Presidents Council, the Administrative Committee reviews all amendments to be included on the 2024 NCAA Convention agenda for placement in the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice.

September 1: Deadline for submission of amendments sponsored by the Presidents Council.

September 15: Deadline for submission by all sponsors (with submission by the primary contact person) of any modification to their original amendments. These modifications may represent either greater or lesser changes; they need only be germane to the original proposal.

September 23: Posting of educational resources. This includes the educational resource that includes all Division II membership-sponsored proposals (as modified), all proposals sponsored by the Presidents Council and the Division II 2024 Convention Voiceover video.

September 23 through November 1: Amendment-to-Amendment Period. The Presidents Council as well as the membership (see Bylaw 9.3.4.2) may submit amendments to the Division II proposals in the educational resource. These amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification of the provisions to be amended; they must fall between the provisions of the circularized amendment and the current provisions.

October 7: Deadline for Committee review. Any Association-wide and/or Division II committee charged by the Presidents Council to evaluate a membership-sponsored amendment must complete its evaluation not later than October 7. The committee must then report the results of its review to the Management Council. The Management Council will review each committee's evaluation at its October videoconference. If the committee issued a position statement, the position must be publicized in the Official Notice.



November 1: Deadline for all resolutions and amendments-to-amendments to be received in the national office. No amendments-to-amendments sponsored by the membership may be submitted after this date. The Presidents Council and Board of Governors are authorized to submit further amendments-to-amendments and resolutions at the Convention if it deems such action necessary.

By December 10: Posting of the Official Notice of the Convention. This publication includes all Division II proposed legislation, resolutions and properly submitted amendments-to-amendments.

January 10-13, 2024: NCAA Convention. All delegates have the opportunity to download the NCAA Events app prior to the Convention. The NCAA Events app contains the most up-to-date schedule and other helpful Convention information.

#### Division II Legislation Committee

Chair – Audra Kedy, Great American Conference  
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive  
Matt Green, Flagler College  
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo  
Kayla Lothian, Dominican University of California  
Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo  
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University  
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University  
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University  
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University  
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University  
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University



## 2024 NCAA Division II Convention Proposals

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE, TITLE and AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
<p><b>Proposal Number:</b> 2024-1</p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b> August 1, 2024.</p> <p><b>Title:</b> PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST</p> <p><b>Affected Bylaws:</b> 17.11.3 and 17.11.4</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> <i>In football, to specify that a member institution shall not participate in its first contest with outside competition in the championship segment before one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6.</i></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> <i>Currently, an institution may participate in its first permissible regular-season contest in the sport of football on the Thursday preceding September 6. Amending the first permissible contest date to allow institutions to play their first regular-season contest with outside competition one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6, will provide institutions with the flexibility to schedule and play the maximum allowable 11 contests over a 12-week period, if desired. As a result, institutions will have the ability to schedule an off/bye week during the season which will benefit student-athlete health and safety. This proposal will also lessen the burden of finding available non-conference opponents and will create added flexibility and financial benefits to include unique opportunities such as sponsored or destination-site contests with opponents outside or within an institution's own conference.</i></p>	<p>Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association;</p> <p>Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association;</p> <p>Gulf South Conference;</p> <p>Lone Star Conference; and</p> <p>Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.</p>
<p><b>Proposal Number:</b> 2024-2</p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b> August 1, 2024.</p> <p><b>Title:</b> PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE --</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> <i>In softball, to specify that an institution or student-athlete shall limit its playing season to 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the segment in which the NCAA championship is conducted and eight contests (games and scrimmages) during another segment.</i></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> <i>In softball, an institution must limit its playing season with outside competition to 56 contests (games and scrimmages). Further, a student-athlete may participate in 56 contests each academic year. The legislation also permits an institution and student-athlete to participate in up to three</i></p>	<p>East Coast Conference;</p> <p>Gulf South Conference;</p> <p>Albany State University (Georgia);</p> <p>Metropolitan State University of Denver;</p>

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE, TITLE and AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
<p>CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS</p> <p><b>Affected Bylaws:</b> 17.21.7.1 and 17.21.7.2</p>	<p><i>discretionary exemptions annually. These exemptions are excluded from an institution's and student-athlete's maximum contests limit. Currently, softball is at a disadvantage from a developmental standpoint comparative to other sports (i.e., soccer, volleyball) since the current legislation only permits three discretionary exemptions. Any contests scheduled outside of the three discretionary exemptions would count against an institution's and student-athlete's maximum contests limit. Permitting eight additional contests during the nonchampionship segment, in addition to the three discretionary exemptions, will allow for proper in-game development, especially for incoming student-athletes, and scheduling flexibility for institutions.</i></p>	<p>Minnesota State University, Mankato;</p> <p>Montana State University Billings;</p> <p>Union University;</p> <p>University of Alabama in Huntsville; and</p> <p>University of West Alabama.</p>
<p><b>Proposal Number:</b> 2024-3</p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b> August 1, 2024.</p> <p><b>Title:</b> CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD</p> <p><b>Affected Bylaws:</b> 18.4.1.1, 18.4.1.2, 18.4.1.3, 18.4.1.3.1 and 18.4.1.3.2</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> To amend the minimum number of sponsoring institutions required to establish and maintain a Division II championship to 35 institutions for both men's and women's sports; further, to establish a three-year grace period during which a sport that falls below the minimum sponsorship requirement may regain the necessary sponsoring institutions before the championship is discontinued.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The proposal was originally recommended by the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee's championships subcommittee during its review of Division II bylaws and subsequently referred to the NCAA Division II Championships Committee for further review. The Championships Committee collaborated with various membership stakeholder groups to vet the proposal and gather feedback through membership surveys which indicated broad support for both reducing the minimum sponsorship requirement and making it consistent across both men's and women's sports. The Championships</p>	<p>NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].</p>

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE, TITLE and AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
	<p><i>Committee believes 35 is an appropriate benchmark that both reflects membership interest and commitment meriting a Division II championship and gives emerging sports a reasonable target to transition to championship status. Additionally, the Championships Committee determined that a three-year grace period provides sufficient time for a given sport to recover should it fall below the minimum requirement without unduly extending the grace period and tying up resources that could otherwise be devoted to championships in good standing and emerging sports that merit championship consideration.</i></p>	
<p><b>Proposal Number:</b> 2024-4 <b>Effective Date:</b> August 1, 2024. <b>Title:</b> CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL  <b>Affected Bylaws:</b> 18.4.3.3</p>	<p><b>Intent:</b> <i>In all team sports other than football, to specify that automatic qualification privileges shall be granted to all conferences that sponsor the sport.</i></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> <i>Currently, sport committees have the option of recommending when and if to apply automatic qualification to their selection processes for team sports. However, the concept of requiring automatic qualification rather than maintaining it as an option emerged during the Division II Implementation Committee's review process as being a core tenet of the Division II championships program. The Division II Championships Committee believes that all conferences should be provided access to NCAA Division II Championships in all team sports when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The Championships Committee also notes that automatic qualification has long been regarded as the most effective way to grow a sport, as it establishes an equitable path for member institutions to participate in NCAA championships as an incentive for sponsorship.</i></p>	<p>NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].</p>

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE and TITLE	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
<p><b>Proposal Number:</b> 2024-5</p> <p><b>Effective Date:</b> August 1, 2024.</p> <p><b>Title:</b> CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- EARNED ACCESS -- FOOTBALL -- EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES</p> <p><b>Affected Bylaws:</b> 18.4.3.4</p>	<p><b><i>Intent:</i></b> <i>In football, to amend the earned access legislation to specify that all football-sponsoring conferences shall be represented in the bracket; further, to specify, that the highest-ranked team in a football-sponsoring conference that is not already represented in the bracket shall be included.</i></p> <p><b><i>Rationale:</i></b> <i>Currently, in football, earned access only applies if at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. This proposal will amend earned access in football to require representation in the bracket from all football-sponsoring conferences. The Division II Championships Committee believes that all conferences should be provided access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The Championships Committee also notes that earned access has long been regarded as the most effective way to provide guaranteed access to the championship.</i></p>	<p>NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].</p>





# A Breakdown of 2021, 2022 & 2023 NCAA Division II Football Schedules



RESEARCH



# NCAA Division II Football

	Fall 2021		Fall 2022		Fall 2023	
# of Teams	166		164		163	
Regular Season Games	N	%	N	%	N	%
Played 11	99	60%	115	70%	110*	68%
Played 10	56	34%	43	26%	52	32%
Played <10	11	6%	6	4%	1	<1%

\*Alderson Broaddus University announced a campus closure on July 31, 2023. This closure means the 11 opponents they were scheduled to play in the regular season are *actually* going to play 10 regular season games this fall. For the purposes of this analysis, those institutions are listed as “Played 11” due to the abnormal circumstance they found themselves in a month before the season. Alderson Broaddus, however, is not included in the total.



RESEARCH

# NCAA Division II Football: Played 11 Regular Season Games

	Fall 2021		Fall 2022		Fall 2023	
# of Teams	99		115		110	
Competition Level	N	%	N	%	N	%
<i>Played FCS member(s)</i>	8	8%	17	15%	14	13%
<i>Played DIII member(s)</i>	2	2%	5	4%	1	1%
<i>Played Non-NCAA member(s)</i>	14	14%	10	9%	13	12%

Note: Percentages are the “N” divided by the total number of programs that competed in 11 regular season games that year. In some cases, institutions competed against more than one institution at a level (e.g., two FCS members) or against two institutions from different levels (e.g., one FCS member + one Non-NCAA member).



# NCAA Division II Football: Competition Against Non-Division II Opponents

	Fall 2021		Fall 2022		Fall 2023	
# of Teams	47		49		43	
Competition Level	N	%	N	%	N	%
<i>Played FCS member(s)</i>	27	16%	29	17%	27	17%
<i>Played DIII member(s)</i>	5	3%	6	4%	2	1%
<i>Played Non-NCAA member(s)</i>	25	15%	20	12%	20	12%

Note: Percentages are the “N” divided by the total number of programs that sponsored football that year. In some cases, institutions competed against more than one institution at a level (e.g., two FCS members) or against two institutions from different levels (e.g., one FCS member + one Non-NCAA member).



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RESEARCH



**Committee Positions on Division II Membership-Sponsored  
Proposals for the 2024 NCAA Convention**

***NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest.***

**Committee Positions:**

- a. *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports:* The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal.
- b. *NCAA Division II Legislation Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the committee noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The committee also noted the impact on the work-life balance of athletics administrators. Additionally, it was noted that this proposal may prompt other Division II sports to feel the need to begin their playing and practice seasons earlier. Finally, the committee noted that although the change may be permissive, there is a potential competitive advantage since some Division II institutions may not be able to bring their student-athletes earlier due to budget constraints.
- c. *NCAA Division II Football Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that this proposal will provide the ability for member institutions and/or conferences to have more flexibility in scheduling (e.g., scheduling nonconference opponents). Further, it was noted the option for institutions to have a bye week will permit institutions to play their 11 contests over a 12-week period. Finally, the committee noted that this proposal is equitable by not allowing a member institution more preseason practice days than another member institution before their first scheduled contest.
- d. *NCAA Division II Championships Committee:* The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal.
- e. *NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that this proposal would treat football differently than other fall sports, including women's sports, as well as create inequities in the opportunities for certain sports (e.g., soccer) to participate in an acclimatization period. Finally, the committee noted the proposal could create a financial burden on institutions already concerned about equitable resource allocation.

***Proposal No. 2024-2 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests.***

**Committee Positions:**

- a. *Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that additional athletic activity entails additional risk of injury. In addition, and of timely concern, the committee noted the impact and burden on institutional medical and athletic training staff, especially given the current membership concerns with the state of the collegiate athletic training workforce.
- b. *Legislation Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that the change may result in some inequities between institutions who are able to participate in all contests (56 contests during the championship segment and eight during the nonchampionship segment) and those institutions unable to do so. The committee also noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II since this may prompt more sports to increase the number of competitions or contests they participate in.
- c. *Championships Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that the change may infringe on the division's Life in the Balance philosophy (i.e., "season creep") and potentially disadvantage institutions that are unable to schedule that many contests.
- d. *NCAA Division II Softball Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted the scheduling flexibility this proposal would provide Division II institutions, especially those that are unable to participate in contests during the nonchampionship segment due to weather. The committee also noted that the 56 contests will only be permitted to be played during the championship segment, with the eight contests only being allowed to be played during the nonchampionship segment. Finally, the committee noted that this proposal will provide freshman softball student-athletes with an opportunity to develop at the collegiate-level during the nonchampionship segment.





**MEMORANDUM**

October 4, 2023

**TO:** NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council.

**FROM:** Rachel Denton  
Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Chelsea Hooks  
Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

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

**SUBJECT:** 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Legislation Groupings.

NCAA staff has reviewed the five proposals that have been properly sponsored for the 2024 NCAA Convention. The following recommendations are for the consideration of the NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council to determine how these proposals should be grouped for purposes of production of the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice for the Division II business session Saturday, January 13, 2024. Please refer to the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Legislative Grid that is included as Supplement No. 9 in your materials.

**Playing and Practice Seasons**

- \*No. 2024-1      Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest.
- \*No. 2024-2      Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests.

**Championships Administration**

- \*No. 2024-3      Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships -- Minimum Number of Sponsoring Institutions and Three-Year Grace Period.
- \*No. 2024-4      Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Automatic Qualification -- Automatic Qualification in All Team Sports Other Than Football.

NCAA MEMORANDUM

October 4, 2023

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\*No. 2024-5                      Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II  
Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Earned Access --  
Football -- Earned Access for All Football-Sponsoring Conferences.

Those proposals marked with an asterisk (\*) have been identified by staff as recommendations for roll-call votes. The Management Council and/or Presidents Council may delete from or make additions to these recommendations.

Note: Proposal Nos. 2024-1 and 2024-5 are football-only votes. Only those institutions and conferences that sponsor football may vote on these proposals.



Official Notice No.	Title	Effective Date	Sponsors	Speaker (Back-Up)	Topical Grouping	Type of Vote	FARA Position	SAAC Position	Notes
2024-1	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST	August 1, 2024.	Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; and Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.		Playing and Practice Seasons	Roll Call			<p><b><i>Football only vote.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Membership-Sponsored Proposal</i></b></p> <p><i>The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and Championships Committee agreed to take <u>no position</u> on this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee on Women’s Athletics and Legislation Committee agreed to <u>oppose</u> this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>The Football Committee agreed to <u>support</u> this proposal.</i></p>
2024-2	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS - - MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE -- CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS	August 1, 2024.	East Coast Conference; Gulf South Conference; Albany State University (Georgia); Metropolitan State University of Denver; Minnesota State University, Mankato; Montana State University Billings; Union University; University of Alabama in Huntsville; and University of West Alabama.		Playing and Practice Seasons	Roll Call			<p><b><i>Membership-Sponsored Proposal</i></b></p> <p><i>The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Championships Committee and Legislation Committee agreed to <u>oppose</u> this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>The Softball Committee agreed to <u>support</u> this proposal.</i></p>
2024-3	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD	August 1, 2024.	NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].	Wollmering (Colvin)	Championships Administration	Roll Call			

2024-4	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL	August 1, 2024.	NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].	McAthie	Championships Administration	Roll Call			
2024-5	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- EARNED ACCESS -- FOOTBALL -- EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES	August 1, 2024.	NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].	Gibson (Page)	Championships Administration	Roll Call			<i>Football only vote.</i>





### NONCONTROVERSIAL

Attached are noncontroversial proposals. NCAA Division II Proposal Nos. NC-2024-15, NC-2024-16 and NC-2024-18 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. [Note: Proposal No. NC-2024-17 was previously approved in legislative form by the NCAA Division II Administrative Committee.]

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 2024 NCAA Convention.

# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** DIVISION II ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE -- PRESIDENTS COUNCIL -- MANAGEMENT COUNCIL -- ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE -- PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE -- EFFECTIVE DATE FOR MANAGEMENT COUNCIL'S COMPOSITION AND DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** November 2, 2022

**Effective Date:**

Sections A, B, C, D, F: February 1, 2024

Section E: August 1, 2023

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-1

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council (Management Council).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Organization

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To amend the effective date of Sections C (Management Council composition) and D (Management Council duties and responsibilities) of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-7 from August 1, 2023, to February 1, 2024.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 8.1, as follows: *(February 1, 2024)*

8.1 Division II ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.1.1 Composition. The composition of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall ~~be based on a weighted regional representation by institutions that shall include one~~**eight** ~~chancellor or president~~**presidents/** ~~chancellors per region for every 22 institutions in that region (see Bylaw 8.1.1.4.1).~~**based on Division II championships region. In addition, two** ~~one~~ "at-large" positions shall exist**president/chancellor** to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation and to accommodate independent institutions**on the board, and two independent members who are not salaried by an NCAA member institution, conference or affiliated member and shall be approved, appointed and verified as independent by the Executive Board.** The ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall also include two ~~members~~**student-athletes of serving on and chosen by** the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (one representing male sports and one representing female sports) (see Bylaw 21.8.5.9.5). **The chair of the Division II Management Council shall serve on the Executive Board as an ex-officio, nonvoting member.**

8.1.1.1 Same Conference. To the extent possible, chancellors or presidents from the same conference shall not serve concurrently on the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.1.1.2 Same Institution. To the extent possible, members of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** and the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2) shall not be employed at the same institution.

~~8.1.1.3 Eligibility for Membership. The Presidents Council shall be composed of chancellors or presidents representing Division II active member institutions.~~

~~8.1.1.4 Geographical Areas:~~

~~8.1.1.4.1 Geographical Areas. For the purpose of representation on the Presidents Council, the Association shall be divided into geographical areas. The Division II geographical areas are as follows:~~

~~(a) Region 1 — Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia;~~

~~(b) Region 2 — Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee;~~

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~(c) Region 3— Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin; and~~

~~(d) Region 4— Alaska, Arizona, British Columbia, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.~~

~~8.1.1.5 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Members. The two members of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall each have a vote on the Presidents Council.~~

[8.1.2 unchanged.]

8.1.3 Election/Term of Office.

~~8.1.3.1 Selection Process. When a vacancy on the Presidents Council occurs, a formal call for nominations shall be published on the NCAA website. In addition, an informational letter to solicit nominations will be mailed to institutions and conference offices in the region in which the vacancy exists. The members of the Council shall select an individual to fill a vacancy after reviewing nominations submitted by institutions and/or conference offices.~~

8.1.3.2<sup>1</sup> Term of Office. ~~Members~~**Presidents, chancellors and independent members** of the Presidents Council~~Executive Board~~ shall serve ~~six~~**two**-year terms, ~~which shall conclude following the annual NCAA Convention~~**that are renewable for an additional year two-year term**. Presidents Council members are not eligible for immediate re-election. A Presidents Council member may be elected to an additional term on the Presidents Council after three years have elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on the Presidents Council may not serve further on the Presidents Council.**The two student-athletes appointed to the Executive Board shall serve one-year terms that are renewable for an additional one-year term.**

8.1.3.2<sup>1.1</sup> Chair and Vice Chair. The chair and the vice chair of the ~~Council~~**Executive Board** shall each serve terms not to exceed ~~three~~**two** years. The chair and vice chair shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to that position. In addition, a member must serve a minimum of one year on the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** before serving as chair or vice chair.

~~8.1.3.2.2 Student-Athletes. The two student-athletes appointed to the Presidents Council shall each serve a one-year term that is renewable for an additional one-year term.~~

[8.1.4 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 8.1.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.1.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

(a) Implement policies adopted by the Association's **NCAA** Board of Governors;

[8.1.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Establish a strategic plan **and/or a set of strategic priorities** for Division II;

[8.1.2-(d) unchanged.]

~~(e) Adopt noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II;~~

[8.1.2-(f) through 8.1.2-(g) relettered as 8.1.2-(e) through 8.1.2-(f), unchanged.]

~~(h) g) Identify, before the printing of the notice of any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur~~**Adopt emergency legislation;**

~~(i) Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;~~

[8.1.2-(j) through 8.1.2-(k) relettered as 8.1.2-(h) through 8.1.2-(i), unchanged.]

~~(l) j)~~ **Approve recommendations of the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2), including the composition of the Management Council;**

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

[8.1.2-(m) relettered as 8.1.2-(k), unchanged.]

(~~n~~ **k**) Ensure *that* there is gender and ethnic diversity among its membership, the membership of the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2) and the membership of each of the other bodies in the Division II governance structure;

(~~e~~ **m**) ~~Develop and a~~ Approve the budget and the use of funds allotted to Division II (e.g., institutional equal distribution funds, funds for the operation of championships);

[8.1.2-(p) through 8.1.2-(r) relettered as 8.1.2-(n) through 8.1.2-(p), unchanged.]

(~~s~~ **q**) Appoint a Division II ~~Presidents Council~~ **Executive Board** member to the NCAA Board of Governors;

[8.1.2-(t) through 8.1.2-(u) relettered as 8.1.2-(r) through 8.1.2-(s), unchanged.]

(~~v~~ **t**) ~~Appoint such~~ **Create** committees or subcommittees ~~as may be necessary for executing the provisions of this constitution or the Division II bylaws~~ **other bodies (e.g., project teams) to study and recommend courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill duties and responsibilities of Division II.**

8.1.2.1 Duties of the Chair. The chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~ **Executive Board** shall:

[8.1.2.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Preside at ~~Presidents Council~~ **Executive Board** meetings;

[8.1.2.1-(c) through 8.1.2.1-(d) unchanged.]

(e) Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

8.1.2.2 Duties of the Vice Chair. The vice chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~ **Executive Board** shall:

[8.1.2.2-(a) through 8.1.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Serve ~~as chair of~~ **on** the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

### C. Bylaws: Amend 8.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

#### 8.2 Division II Management Council.

8.2.1 Composition. The **composition of the** Management Council shall ~~be comprised of~~ **include** one ~~administrator or representative~~ **member** from each of the Division II multisport voting conferences; ~~one administrator or representative of Division II independent institutions provided there are at least eight Division II independent institutions; two~~ **four** "at-large" ~~positions~~ **members** to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation; and two ~~members of~~ **student-athletes serving on and chosen by** the **Division II** Student-Athlete Advisory Committee **(one representing male sports and one representing female sports) (per see Bylaw 21.8.5.9.4).** The members shall be representatives of Division II active member institutions. The members of the Council shall include:

(a) At least ~~four~~ **five** directors of athletics;

(b) At least ~~four~~ **five** senior woman administrators;

(c) At least ~~four~~ **five** faculty athletics representatives; and

(d) At least ~~one~~ **two** conference ~~administrator~~ **office staff**.

**Once the minimums are met, the Council 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.**

[8.2.1.1 through 8.2.1.3 unchanged.]

[8.2.2 through 8.2.4 unchanged.]

### D. Bylaws: Amend 8.2.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

8.2.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The Management Council shall:

(a) Implement policies adopted by the ~~Association's~~**NCAA** Board of Governors and the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**;

(b) Make recommendations to the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** on matters it deems appropriate;

(c) ~~Recommend the adoption of~~**Adopt** noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II; ~~subject to ratification by the Presidents Council~~;

**(d) Sponsor legislative proposals for a vote at the annual NCAA Convention;**

~~(e)~~ **(e)** Take final action on matters delegated to it by the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**;

~~(e) Make interpretations of the bylaws of Division II;~~

(f) Review and act on the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of ~~Division II representatives to~~ committees with Association-wide functions;

[8.2.2-(g) unchanged.]

**(h) Identify, before the printing of the Official Notice for any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur;**

**(i) Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;**

[8.2.2-(h) through 8.2.2-(j) relettered as 8.2.2-(j) through 8.2.2-(l), unchanged.]

~~(k)~~ **(m)** Recommend the ~~appointment of such committees or subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of this constitution or the~~**creation of committees or other bodies to study and suggest courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of** Division II bylaws, subject to ~~ratification~~**approval** by the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.2.2.1 Duties of the Chair. The chair of the Management Council shall:

[8.2.2.1-(a) through 8.2.2.1-(f) unchanged.]

8.2.2.2 Duties of the Vice Chair. The vice chair of the Management Council shall:

[8.2.2.2-(a) through 8.2.2.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Serve as a member of the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee; and

[8.2.2.2-(d) unchanged.]

[8.2.2.3 unchanged.]

**E. Bylaws:** Amend 8.3, as follows: (August 1, 2023)

8.3 Division II Administrative Committee.

8.3.1 Composition. The Administrative Committee shall consist of five members, including the chairs and vice chairs of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** and, Management Council, **and the chair of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** ~~The fifth member shall be another member of the Presidents Council.~~

[8.3.1.1 unchanged.]

[8.3.2 through 8.3.3 unchanged.]

**F. Bylaws:** Amend 8.4, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.4 Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

8.4.1 Composition. The Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee shall consist of ~~seven~~**11** members, including the vice chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**, ~~two members~~ the vice chair of the Management Council, one of which must include the vice chair, three additional members of the Presidents Council and two additional members of the Management Council. **one conference commissioner, one member from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and six additional members.** ~~The chairs of the Presidents Council and the Management Council shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.~~ **At least one of the 11 members shall be from a minority-serving institution.**

[8.4.1.1 unchanged.]

8.4.2 Duties. The Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee shall:

- (a) ~~Review budgetary recommendations related to the annual Division II budget.~~**Monitor the Division II strategic plan/strategic priorities; and assess and report on its implementation and recommend updates, when necessary, consistent with the Division II philosophy, strategic position and direction from the Division II Executive Board;**
- (b) ~~Advise both the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council regarding the division's financial affairs.~~**Provide regular reports on the implementation of the strategic plan/strategic priorities of the Division II Management Council and Executive Board;**
- (c) ~~Monitor the Division II strategic plan, assess and report on its implementation and recommend updates of the plan, when necessary, consistent with the Division II philosophy, strategic position and direction from the Division II Presidents Council.~~**Make recommendations related to the Division II budget and budget guidelines and principles; and**
- (d) ~~Provide regular reports on the implementation of the strategic plan to the Division II Management Council and Presidents Council.~~**Ensure alignment of the division's strategic plan/strategic priorities with financial allocations; and**
- (e) Advise both the Division II Executive Board and Management Council regarding the division's financial affairs.**

### Additional Information:

Delaying the effective date for the change in composition and duties and responsibilities for the Management Council will provide an opportunity for an expanded pool of candidates to meet the new requirements in Proposal No. 2023-7 (Division II organizational structure -- presidents council -- management council -- administrative committee -- planning and finance committee).

### Review History:

Oct 18, 2022: Recommended Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Oct 26, 2022: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Presidents Council.

Jan 14, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- RESEARCH COMMITTEE -- ELIMINATION OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** January 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-2

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Committees

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Research Committee.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

~~21.2.7 Research Committee.~~

~~21.2.7.1 Composition: The Research Committee shall consist of 10 members, including four representatives from Division I, two each from Divisions II and III and two unallocated. In addition, three positions shall be allocated for men, three allocated for women and four unallocated. The membership of the committee shall consist of at least three athletics administrators and at least three faculty athletics representatives with appropriate research experience.~~

~~21.2.7.2 Duties: The committee shall:~~

- ~~(a) Promote and encourage graduate student research on psychosocial aspects of intercollegiate athletics by administering the Association's Graduate Student Research Grant Program;~~
- ~~(b) Assist staff in the evaluation of data-sharing requests submitted by the membership, as needed;~~
- ~~(c) Study and make recommendations to the NCAA research staff and governance committees concerning opportunities for Association or collaborative research at the nexus of higher education and athletics;~~
- ~~(d) Confer with research staff on issues related to the Research Review Board, its policies and standard operating procedures; and~~
- ~~(e) Monitor progress of the most significant research endeavors undertaken by the NCAA research staff at the behest of the Association.~~

[21.2.8 through 21.2.10 renumbered as 21.2.7 through 21.2.9, unchanged.]

## Additional Information:

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-Wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The result of a preliminary review was a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Research Committee. Over time the work in this area changed and is no longer necessary to serve the membership. This proposal is recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

### Review History:

Oct 25, 2022: Recommends Approval - Board of Governors.

Jan 11, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** COMMITTEES -- PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL AND RULES COMMITTEES -- DUTIES -- ELIMINATION OF COMMON RULES REQUIREMENT

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** March 1, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-3

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Playing Rules Oversight Panel).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Committees

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 21.1, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.1 Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

[21.1.1 through 21.1.3 unchanged.]

21.1.4 Duties. The panel shall:

[21.1.4-(a) through 21.1.4-(d) unchanged.]

~~(e) Review and act on requests from any division to exempt it from applying or delaying implementation of a playing rule for financial reasons;~~

[21.1.4-(f) through 21.1.4-(g) relettered as 21.1.4-(e) through 21.1.4-(f), unchanged.]

[21.1.5 through 21.1.6 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 21.3, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.3 Association-Wide Committees -- Rules Committees Without Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.3.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

[21.3.1.1 through 21.3.1.2 unchanged.]

21.3.1.3 Duties. Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. ~~These playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association, and differences among the divisions shall not be permitted, except for the division-specific playing regulations developed to address significant financial impact and approved by the divisions and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.~~ Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[21.3.1.4 through 21.3.1.6 unchanged.]

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

[21.3.2 through 21.3.14 unchanged.]

### C. Bylaws: Amend 21.4, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.4 Common Committees -- Committees With Playing Rules and Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.4.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

[21.4.1.1 through 21.4.1.4 unchanged.]

21.4.1.5 Duties.

21.4.1.5.1 Rules of Play. Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. ~~These playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association, and differences among the divisions shall not be permitted, except for the division-specific playing regulations developed to address significant financial impact and approved by the divisions and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.~~ Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[21.4.1.5.2 through 21.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[21.4.1.6 unchanged.]

[21.4.2 through 21.4.7 unchanged.]

### D. Administrative: Amend 31.1.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

31.1.6 Playing Rules.

[31.1.6.1 through 31.1.6.2 unchanged.]

~~31.1.6.3 Modifications to Non-NCAA Rules – Consistency Among Divisions. Rules modifications for sports in which the Association does not publish rules must be consistent among all three divisions.~~

### Additional Information:

The new NCAA constitution, which was adopted by the membership in January 2022 and was effective August 1, 2022, includes a provision that calls for flexibility at the divisional level in establishing the rules for sports competitions. This proposal is intended to effectuate the application of the flexibility required by the constitution. Rules committees and committees with both playing rules and championship administration responsibilities will be maintained as common committees (requiring inclusion of members from each applicable division). Maintaining the committees as such will encourage the establishment and maintenance of common playing rules insofar as it is prudent and appropriate. However, the committees will have the flexibility to establish differences in divisional playing rules as the divisions deem necessary. The process for recommending divisional differences in the playing rules would be determined by each division through its policies and procedures. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel would still have the authority to not approve recommendations that the panel determines would harm the image of the games, create an unsafe environment for student-athletes or place an unreasonable financial burden on the membership of a particular division. This proposal would enact the flexibility contemplated in the new NCAA constitution but would maintain appropriate involvement of all divisions to balance the need for flexibility with the appropriate level of consistency among the divisions.

### Review History:

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

Jan 11, 2023: Recommends Approval - Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS -- EXCEPTIONS FOR TRANSFERS FROM FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES -- ONE-TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION -- TRANSFER FROM A NON-DIVISION II INSTITUTION

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** March 21, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate, for student-athletes transferring for the 2023-24 academic year, and thereafter.

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-4

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To specify that the June 15 written notification of transfer date is not applicable to a student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA).

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.5, as follows:

14.5 Transfer Regulations.

[14.5.1 through 14.5.4 unchanged.]

14.5.5 Four-Year College Transfers. See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw 14.4 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

[14.5.5.1 through 14.5.5.2 unchanged.]

14.5.5.3 Exceptions for Transfers From Four-Year Colleges. A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.5.1.1) from a four-year collegiate institution is not subject to the residence requirement for intercollegiate competition, provided the student does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring (except for the return to the original institution without participation exception) and any of the following exceptions are satisfied. However, during the student-athlete's first academic year of full-time collegiate enrollment, such conditions may serve as a basis for an exception to the residence requirement for transfer students to a Division II institution who, at the time of initial collegiate enrollment, met the requirements for "qualifiers" (set forth in Bylaw 14.3.1.1) in Division II. See Bylaw 14.5.5.1.2.1 for additional information regarding the eligibility of a 2-4-4 transfer who attended the initial four-year institution for less than one academic year.

[14.5.5.3.1 through 14.5.5.3.8 unchanged.]

14.5.5.3.9 One-Time Transfer Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all of the following conditions are met (for graduate students, see Bylaw 14.1.8.1):

[14.5.5.3.9-(a) through 14.5.5.3.9-(c) unchanged.]

(d) The student must provide written notification of transfer to the institution by June 15 (**see Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9.1 for an exception for midyear and non-Division II transfers**); and

[14.5.5.3.9-(e) unchanged.]

14.5.5.3.9.1 Application of Notification Dates to Midyear **and Non-Division II** Transfers. A midyear transfer student-athlete **or student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g.,**

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division I, Division III or NAIA**) is not required to have provided notification of transfer to the institution by the notification deadline in the previous academic year.

[14.5.5.3.9.2 unchanged.]

[14.5.5.4 unchanged.]

### **Additional Information:**

During the 2022 NCAA Convention, the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2022-4 (recruiting, eligibility and financial aid -- transfer regulations -- four-year college transfers -- exceptions for transfers from four-year colleges -- notification of transfer, one-time transfer exception and financial aid legislation) required, among other conditions, that a transfer student-athlete provide their current institution with written notification of transfer by June 15 in order to utilize NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception). Since its adoption, there has been an increase in legislative relief waivers for non-Division II transfer student-athletes due to missing the June 15 written notification of transfer date. The majority of waivers were approved. Removing the June 15 written notification of transfer date for non-Division II transfer student-athletes will eliminate staff legislating through the waiver process. This proposal will not eliminate the need for student-athletes transferring from non-Division II institutions (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) to satisfy the remaining conditions of Division II Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception) in order to be immediately eligible upon transfer.

### **Review History:**

Mar 22, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEE ON SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT -- ELIMINATION OF COMMITTEE ON SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-5

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Committees

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

*21.2.7 Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.*

*21.2.7.1 Composition. The Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct shall consist of 11 members. 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.*

*21.2.7.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete shall serve as a member of the committee in an advisory capacity and may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.*

*21.2.7.2 Duties. The committee shall be responsible for promoting sportsmanship and ethical conduct within the Association.*

[21.2.8 through 21.2.9 renumbered as 21.2.7 through 21.2.8, unchanged.]

## Additional Information:

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The continued review has resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct. The work associated with sportsmanship and ethical conduct has expanded so significantly that it has been supported and absorbed by the NCAA national office and other councils and committees in the divisional governance structures, which reflects the importance of sportsmanship and ethical conduct to the Association. This proposal is being recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

## Review History:

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

Jan 11, 2023: Recommends Approval - Board of Governors.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II GENERAL COMMITTEES -- CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE -- DUTIES -- FINAL AUTHORITY

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-6

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Committees

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To specify that the Division II Championships Committee shall have final authority to approve Division II sport and rules committee appointments.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.8, as follows:

21.8 Division II Committees.

[21.8.1 through 21.8.4 unchanged.]

21.8.5 Division II General Committees. To conduct Division II business in an efficient and orderly fashion, the following Division II committees shall be established and shall report directly to the Division II Management Council.

[21.8.5.1 unchanged.]

21.8.5.2 Championships Committee.

[21.8.5.2.1 unchanged.]

21.8.5.2.2 Duties. The committee shall:

[21.8.5.2.2-(a) through 21.8.5.2.2-(e) unchanged.]

(f) Select **and approve** sports **and rules** committee representatives, ~~subject to ratification by the Division II Management Council;~~

[21.8.5.2.2-(g) through 21.8.5.2.2-(h) unchanged.]

[21.8.5.2.2.1 unchanged.]

[21.8.5.3 through 21.8.5.9 unchanged.]

[21.8.6 unchanged.]

## Additional Information:

Currently, the NCAA Division II Management Council is the final authority for approving Division II sport and rules committee appointments. However, given the new governance structure adopted at the 2023 Convention that revises the duties of the Management Council and drives decision making through the structure, the Division II Championships Committee is well positioned to take on this responsibility due to their familiarity with the duties of sport and rules committees and the individuals assigned to them. The Management Council would continue to review the appointments as part of the Championships Committee reports, as informational items.



## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

### Review History:

Feb 24, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Championships Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** CHAMPIONSHIPS AND POSTSEASON FOOTBALL AND EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS -- MERGING BYLAW 18 AND 31

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-7

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Championships/Postseason Events

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To amend and combine Bylaws 18 and 31, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7, as follows:

## **7.8 Institutional Eligibility.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 14, as follows:

14 Eligibility: Academic and General Requirements

[14.01 through 14.1 unchanged.]

14.1.1 Postseason and Regular-Season Competition. To be eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football bowl games, the student-athlete shall meet all of the Association's general eligibility requirements and any additional eligibility requirements adopted by the applicable membership division.

[14.1.1.1 unchanged.]

**14.1.1.2 General Institutional Requirements. The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).**

[14.1.2 through 14.1.11 unchanged.]

[14.2 through 14.13 unchanged.]

**14.13.4 Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested or a protest is filed, the student-athlete shall not be withheld nor shall the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.**

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 18, as follows:

~~18.7.48.21.1~~ **18.7.48.21.1 General Institutional Requirements. To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in NCAA championship competition:**

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- ~~(a) The institution shall be an active member in good standing in the appropriate division, or have its sport so classified, and be eligible under the rules of the member conference of which it is a member;~~
- (b) **a)** The institution shall have paid its membership dues for the current year in accordance with the deadlines set forth in Bylaw ~~31.2.1.2~~**18.2.2.1**;
- (c) **b)** The institution shall designate (in accordance with Bylaw ~~207~~) its athletics program as Division I, Division II or Division III for competition and possible eligibility for championships in those intercollegiate sports recognized by the NCAA;
- (d) **c)** The institution's director of athletics shall certify, annually by October 15, the institution's compliance with Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1.1~~**7.8.1.1**;
- (e) **d)** The institution shall have confirmed annually its sponsorship of a varsity intercollegiate team in the sport and submitted its race and demographic information by so reporting on the NCAA official information form; **and**
- (f) **e)** The institution shall have submitted its race and demographic information to the NCAA through the official submission process; ~~and,~~
- ~~(g) The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).~~

~~187.48.21.1.1~~ Certification of Compliance -- Requirements. The institution's director of athletics shall certify that the following conditions have been satisfied. (See Bylaw 7.3.1.5.7.)

~~187.48.21.1.1.1~~ NCAA Rules Review. The director of athletics or a designated representative, has reviewed with all athletics department staff members the rules and regulations of the NCAA as they apply to the administration and conduct of intercollegiate athletics.

~~187.48.21.1.1.2.2~~ Coaching Staff Disciplinary Actions. At the time of such certification, and as a result of involvement in a violation of the Association's legislation as determined by the Committee on Infractions or the Management Council, no current member of the institution's coaching staff:

[7.8.1.1.2-(a) through 7.8.1.1.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~187.48.21.1.1.2.2.1~~ Period of Suspension or Prohibition. The period of suspension or prohibition established by the Committee on Infractions or the Management Council must be in effect for the provisions set forth in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1.1.2~~**7.8.1.1.2** to apply.

~~187.48.21.1.1.2.2.2~~ Due-Process Requirement. The affected coaching staff member must be given through the appropriate institution notice of an opportunity to be heard at both the NCAA hearing resulting in the finding of involvement in the violation and the institutional hearing resulting in suspension or prohibition.

~~187.48.21.1.1.3.3~~ Certification of Policies, Procedures and Practices. The policies, procedures and practices of the institution, its staff members and representatives of athletics interests are in compliance at the present time with the Association's legislation insofar as the director or athletics can determine.

~~187.48.21.1.1.4.4~~ Maintenance of Compliance. It is the intention of the institution to maintain such compliance.

~~187.48.21.1.2.2~~ Additional Requirements. Other requirements for institutional eligibility for championships are set forth in Bylaw ~~31.2.1~~**18.2.2**.

~~187.48.2.2~~ Championships. To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in an NCAA championship, a member institution shall, in addition to meeting the general institutional eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1~~**7.8.1**:

[7.8.2-(a) through 7.8.2-(b) unchanged.]

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- (c) Report annually to the NCAA through the president or chancellor, on a form approved by the Management Council, the admissions and graduation-rate data specified in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.2.1~~ **7.8.2.1**. The data shall be received in the national office not later than January 2. Any data received after that date shall appear on a form postmarked not later than December 26.

~~18.7.48.2.2.1~~ Admissions and Graduation-Rate Disclosure. An institution shall not be eligible to enter a team or an individual competitor in an NCAA championship unless it has submitted federal graduation rate and enrollment data to the NCAA national office on or before the applicable deadline. (See Bylaw 13.3 for additional regulations.)

~~18.7.48.2.2.2~~ Exemption From Maximum Awards Limitation. A member institution may be exempt from the maximum awards limitation in a sport provided the institution:

[7.8.2.2-(a) through 7.8.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

### 18 Championships ~~and Postseason Football~~ **Administration**

[18.01 unchanged.]

~~18.01.2 Postseason Competition Not Sponsored by a Collegiate Entity. Competition by member institutions in postseason contests that are not sponsored, promoted, managed and controlled by a collegiate entity shall conform to the requirements set forth in this article and all other applicable legislation of the Association, which may include penalties for violations of these requirements by sponsoring agencies.~~

~~18.201.2~~ Criteria for Establishment or Continuation of Championships. The establishment or continuation of an NCAA **National Collegiate Championship or a Division II** ~~Championship~~ in a given sport shall be determined on the basis of the requirements in the following bylaws, with sponsorship of a sport based on the Association's records as of September 30 each year (**see Bylaws 18.4.1 and 18.5.2**).

[18.02 unchanged.]

18.02.1.1 National Collegiate Championship. A National Collegiate Championship for a particular sport is postseason competition conducted by the Association for eligible student-athletes and teams of active member institutions to determine the NCAA champion in that sport for all divisions that do not have a separate division championship in that sport. A National Collegiate Championship is established or continued in accordance with the criteria set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.5.2**.

18.02.1.2 Division Championship. A division championship for a particular sport is postseason competition conducted by the Association for eligible student-athletes or teams of active member institutions to determine the division champion in that sport. A division championship is established or continued in accordance with the criteria set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1**.

18.02.2 Mixed Team. A mixed team is a varsity intercollegiate sports team on which at least one individual of each gender competes (~~see Bylaw 18.2.8.3~~).

~~18.02.3 Open Date. An open date is a regular weekend playing date before the end of an institution's regular football schedule on which an institution is not playing a game, or a date approved by the Management Council, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, to enable an institution to assist financially in meeting an unforeseen hardship situation resulting directly from the institution's intercollegiate athletics activities.~~

~~18.02.4 Postseason Football Bowl Game. A postseason football bowl game is a football contest conducted after the regular football season and involving two teams selected because of their regular season performance (e.g., won-lost record, conference championship).~~

[18.1 unchanged.]

~~18.41.21~~ Institutional Eligibility. **To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in NCAA championship competition the institution shall be an active member in good standing in the appropriate division, or**

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have its sport so classified, and be eligible under the rules of the member conference of which it is a member.

~~18.42.1~~ Student-Athlete Eligibility. To be eligible for NCAA championships, a student-athlete shall meet all applicable individual-eligibility requirements set forth in NCAA legislation. The general and academic eligibility requirements are set forth in detail in Bylaw 14. An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference.

~~18.42.1.42~~ Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug class, ~~as set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.1~~, shall be declared ineligible for further participation in postseason and regular-season competition in accordance with the ineligibility provisions in this bylaw.

~~18.42.1.42.12~~ Penalty -- Banned Drug Classes Other Than Cannabinoids and Narcotics. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors), shall be subject to the following:

[18.2.1.2.2-(a) through 18.2.1.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~18.42.1.42.12.1~~ Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics, they shall lose all remaining regular-season and postseason eligibility in all sports. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, they shall engage, along with the institution, in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed and facilitated by the institution (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address the substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics, they shall be ineligible for competition for 50 percent of a season in all sports (the first 50 percent of regular-season contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the prescribed penalty is fulfilled and they test negative pursuant to the policies and procedures of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program.

~~18.42.1.42.23~~ Penalty -- Narcotics. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors) shall be ineligible for competition during 50 percent of a season of competition in all sports (i.e., 50 percent of all contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the prescribed penalty is fulfilled and they test negative pursuant to the policies and procedures of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program.

~~18.42.1.42.23.1~~ Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics or if a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics or tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.3~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.4.**

~~18.42.1.42.34~~ Penalty -- Cannabinoids. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors) shall engage, along with the institution, in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by the institution (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address the substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who

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previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.3**.

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.34.1~~ **18.2.1.2.3.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, the institution must attest that the student-athlete was compliant with the education and management plan required following the student-athlete's first positive test, as specified by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports' policies and procedures, and has agreed to continue to engage in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by their institution and designed to mitigate any identified at-risk behavior (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2.

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.34.1.1~~ **18.2.1.2.3.1.1** Failure to Attest. If an institution cannot or does not attest, the student-athlete shall be considered ineligible for competition during 25-percent of a season in all sports (25-percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum regular-season contests or dates of competition).

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.34.2~~ **18.2.1.2.3.2** Third Positive Test and Beyond. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive a third time or more for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, the institution must attest that the student-athlete was compliant with the education and management plan required following the student-athlete's first positive test, as specified by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports' policies and procedures, and has agreed to continue to engage in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by their institution and designed to mitigate any identified at-risk behavior (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.3**.

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.34.2.1~~ **18.2.1.2.3.2.1** Failure to Attest. If the institution cannot or does not attest, the student-athlete shall be considered ineligible for competition during 50-percent of a season in all sports (50-percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum regular-season contests or dates of competition).

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.45~~ **18.2.1.2.4** Breach of NCAA Drug-Testing Program Protocol. A student-athlete who is in breach of the NCAA drug-testing program protocol (e.g., no show) shall be considered to have tested positive for the use of any drug other than a cannabinoid or narcotic.

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.45.1~~ **18.2.1.2.4.1** Tampering With a Drug-Test Sample. A student-athlete who is involved in a case of clearly observed tampering with an NCAA drug test sample (e.g., urine substitution and related methods), as documented per NCAA drug-testing protocol by a drug-testing crew member, shall be subject to the following:

[18.2.1.2.5.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.5.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~18.4.2.1.4~~ ~~2.56~~ **18.2.1.2.5** Transfers. If the student-athlete transfers to another NCAA institution while ineligible, the institution from which the student-athlete transferred must notify the student-athlete's new institution that the student-athlete is ineligible. If the student-athlete transfers to a non-NCAA institution while ineligible and competes in intercollegiate competition during the prescribed period of ineligibility at a non-NCAA institution:

[18.2.1.2.6-(a) through 18.2.1.2.6-(c) unchanged.]

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~~18.42.1.42.67~~ Appeals. An institution may appeal the penalty to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (or a designated subcommittee), as specified by the committee's policies and procedures. The committee determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by an other authority.

~~18.42.1.42.8~~ Non-NCAA Athletics Organization's Positive Drug Test. The Board of Governors shall authorize methods for drug testing any student-athlete who has disclosed in the student-athlete statement (see Bylaw 14.1.3.1) that they have a positive drug test administered by a non-NCAA athletics organization that has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code. A student-athlete under a drug-testing suspension from a national or international sports governing body that has adopted the WADA code shall not participate in NCAA intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.

~~18.2.2 Division Championship. A division championship in a particular sport may be established by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in Division I or, in Divisions II and III, a simple majority of all members of that division present and voting at an annual Convention subject to the requirements, standards and conditions regarding the required number of members sponsoring the sport as prescribed in this bylaw.~~

~~18.2.3 Championships Existing During 1993-94. A National Collegiate Championship or a division championship that existed during the 1993-94 academic year may be continued if at least 40 member institutions sponsor the sport.~~

### ~~18.2.4.3 Sponsorship Criteria:~~

~~18.2.4.3.1 Minimum Period. The applicable minimum sponsorship number must exist for one academic year in order for a championship to be established. Legislation to establish the championship may be proposed during the year in which the minimum sponsorship number exists. Varsity sports sponsored before August 1, 1994, shall count toward the minimum one or two-year sponsorship requirement.~~

~~18.2.4.3.2 National Collegiate and Division Championship in Same Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and a division championship exist in the same sport, sponsorship of the sport in the division in which the division championship is conducted shall not count toward the minimum sponsorship number for the National Collegiate Championship.~~

~~18.2.5 Establishment of Single Championship in Sport. If only one championship is established or continued in accordance with Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, it shall be a National Collegiate Championship for which any active member institution in good standing can be eligible.~~

~~18.2.6 Establishment of Three Championships in Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and two division championships exist in the same sport, the National Collegiate Championship automatically shall become a division championship for the remaining division that does not sponsor a division championship in that sport.~~

~~18.2.7 Establishment of Two Championships in Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and one division championship exist in the same sport, only the members of the division sponsoring the division championship may participate in the division championship, and that division's membership may not participate in the National Collegiate Championship in that sport.~~

### ~~18.2.8 Determination of Sponsorship Requirements:~~

~~18.2.8.1 Single-Gender Athletics Programs. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, member institutions sponsoring no varsity intercollegiate athletics programs for men shall not be included in making calculations concerning men's championships, and member institutions sponsoring no varsity intercollegiate athletics programs for women shall not be included in making calculations concerning women's championships.~~

~~18.2.8.2 Separate Men's and Women's Teams, Same Sport. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4 for a combined men's and women's championship, separate varsity intercollegiate men's and women's teams in the same sport at a member institution shall be counted separately.~~

~~18.2.8.3 Mixed Team. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, a mixed team (as defined in Bylaw 18.02.2) shall be counted as one team. A mixed team shall count toward the minimum sponsorship percentage for men's championships.~~

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~~18.2.9 Subdivision Requirements. If a division subdivides for the administration of a sport, resulting in less than the applicable minimum number of the division's active members sponsoring the sport on a varsity intercollegiate basis in that subdivision, the subdivision shall meet the requirement within three years of the date the subdivision was created. It may establish and conduct a championship in the interim.~~

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers 90 national championships. There are 11 National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See ~~Bylaw 31.02.2 for information about the classification and terminology of championships and see~~ Bylaw 9.3.10.1 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (11).

18.3.2 NCAA Division II Championships (25).

18.4 ~~Eligibility for~~ **Administration of Division II** Championships.

18.24.41 Minimum Sponsorship for **Division II** Championships.

~~18.4.1.1 Institution's Responsibility. The responsibility of an institution to withhold from all intercollegiate competition a student-athlete who is ineligible under any NCAA legislation is set forth in Bylaw 14.12.1.~~

~~18.4.1.2 Committee on Student Athlete Reinstatement Authority. The Committee on Student Athlete Reinstatement shall have final authority to determine all matters pertaining to the eligibility of student-athletes competing in the various NCAA championships submitted by member institutions (see Bylaw 14.13).~~

~~18.4.1.3 Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested, the Committee on Student Athlete Reinstatement shall not rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. (See Bylaw 31.2.2.3 regarding protests received during a break in the continuity of a championship.)~~

18.24.41.1 Men's Sports. A ~~National Collegiate~~ **Division II** ~~c~~championship ~~or a division championship~~ may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport.

18.24.41.2 Women's Sports. A ~~National Collegiate~~ **Division II** ~~c~~championship ~~or a division championship~~ may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.

18.24.101.3 Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements. A **Division II** championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 or 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2**.

18.24.101.3.1 Exception -- Olympic Sports. A ~~National Collegiate~~ **Division II** ~~c~~championship ~~or a division championship~~ in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2**. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.

18.24.101.3.2 Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A ~~National Collegiate~~ **Division II** ~~c~~championship ~~or division championship~~ in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2**.

### **18.4.2 Championship Site Selection.**

~~18.4.1.4.7 Banned Drugs and Drug-Testing Methods. The Board of Governors shall adopt a list of banned drug classes and shall authorize methods for drug testing of student-athletes on a year-round basis. The list of banned drug classes and the procedure for informing member institutions about authorized methods for drug testing are set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.~~

**18.4.3.3.2 Impact of Nullification on Automatic Qualification for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 18.02.1 and 18.4.3.2**



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regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship.

**18.4.3.4.2 Impact of Nullification on Earned Access for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 18.02.1 and 18.4.3.2 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to complete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the NCAA championship.**

~~18.4.2.1.3 Petitioning for Division I Classification. A Division II institution petitioning for Division I institutional membership or eligibility in a sport (in accordance with Bylaw 7) shall have operated in conformity with the requirements of Bylaw 18.4.2.2 (a) for a period of two years before the effective date of its Division I membership or be ineligible for Division I championships.~~

### **18.5 National Collegiate Championships.**

~~18.5.1 Division Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification into any Division II Championship, a conference shall meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.~~

**18.25.1 National Collegiate Championship.** A National Collegiate Championship for which any active member in good standing is eligible (per Bylaw 7.3.2) may be established by action of all three divisions acting through each division's governance structure, subject to the requirements, standards and conditions regarding the required number of members sponsoring the sport as prescribed in this bylaw.

### **18.5.2 Minimum Sponsorship for National Collegiate Championships.**

**18.5.2.1 Men's Sports. A National Collegiate Championship may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport.**

**18.5.2.2 Women's Sports. A National Collegiate Championship may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.**

**18.5.2.3 Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements. A championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.5.2.1 or 18.5.2.2.**

**18.5.2.3.1 Exception -- Olympic Sports. A National Collegiate Championship in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.5.2.1 and 18.5.2.2. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.**

**18.5.2.3.2 Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A National Collegiate Championship in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.5.2.1 and 18.5.2.2.**

~~18.25.32.14~~ **18.5.32.14 National Collegiate and Division II Championship in Same Sport.** If a National Collegiate Championship and a ~~division~~**Division II** championship exist in the same sport, **Division II** sponsorship of the sport ~~in the division in which the division championship is conducted~~ shall not count toward the minimum sponsorship number for the National Collegiate Championship.

**18.5.3 Automatic Qualification**~~by Conference.~~

**18.5.23.1 National Collegiate Championship.** To be eligible for automatic qualification into any National Collegiate Championship, a conference shall:

[18.5.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

- (b) Meet all applicable requirements for conference automatic qualification into any National Collegiate Championship as set forth in Bylaw ~~31.3.4~~**18.5.3.1.1.**

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**18.5.3.1.2 Limitation on Automatic-Qualifying Positions. A member conference that satisfies the general requirements for automatic qualification is eligible for one automatic qualification per applicable sport.**

18.67 Playing Rules for Championships. In sports in which the Association maintains rules committees, the rules adopted by said committees shall govern the conduct of all NCAA-sponsored events in those sports. ~~In those sports in which the Association does not maintain rules committees, the rules to be used are specified in Bylaw 31.1.6.~~

**D. Administrative:** Amend 31, as follows:

~~31.18.02.1~~ Automatic Qualification. Automatic qualification is the automatic entry into a championship field by a team or individual student-athletes representing a member conference recommended by the appropriate sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee (see Bylaw 31.3.4).

~~31.18.02.34~~ Misconduct. Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics.

~~31.18.02.45~~ Nullification. Nullification is a penalty imposed on an institution by the Championships Committee for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition.

~~31.18.2~~ Eligibility for Championships.

~~31.18.2.1.71~~ Notification of Ineligibility. An institution shall advise the NCAA championships staff if a student-athlete who has participated in regular-season competition becomes ineligible before the date on which the governing sports committee selects championship participants, as indicated in the appropriate championships handbook.

~~31.18.2.31.12.1~~ Banned Drugs. The following is the list of banned-drug classes, which aligns with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list of prohibited classes, with the exception of the glucocorticoid class. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (or a designated subcommittee) has the authority to identify banned drugs within each class. The institution and student-athletes shall be held accountable for all drugs within the banned-drug classes regardless of whether they have specifically identified.

[18.2.1.2.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.1-(i) unchanged.]

~~31.18.2.31.12.1.1~~ Drugs and Procedures Subject to Restrictions. The use of the following drugs and/or procedures is subject to certain restrictions and may or may not be permissible, depending on limitations expressed in these guidelines and/or quantities of these substances used:

[18.2.1.2.1.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.1.1-(f) unchanged.]

~~31.18.2.31.2.9~~ Medical Exceptions. Exceptions to the prohibition on use of any substance in a banned-drug class may be provided to a student-athlete, as specified in the policies and procedures of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

~~31.18.2.31.32.10~~ Methods for Drug Testing. The methods and any future modifications authorized by the Board of Governors for drug testing of student-athletes shall be posted to the NCAA website. Copies of the modifications shall be available to member institutions.

~~31.18.2.31.42.11~~ Events Identified for Drug Tests. The Board of Governors shall determine the regular-season and postseason competition for which drug tests shall be made and the procedures to be followed in disclosing its determinations.

~~31.18.2.31.52.12~~ Individual Eligibility -- Team Sanctions. Executive regulations pertaining to team-eligibility sanctions for positive tests resulting from the NCAA drug-testing program shall apply only in the following situation: If a student-athlete is declared ineligible before an NCAA team championship or a certified postseason football game and the institution knowingly allows them to participate, all team-ineligibility sanctions shall apply (i.e., the team shall be required to forfeit its awards and any revenue distribution it may have earned, and the team's and student-athlete's performances shall be deleted

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from NCAA records). In the case of certified postseason football contests, the team's and student-athlete's performances shall be deleted from NCAA records.

~~3118.2.12~~ Institutional Eligibility. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in NCAA championships, an institution shall ~~recognize the sport involved as a varsity intercollegiate sport (see Bylaw 17.02.16) and shall meet the institutional requirements set forth in Bylaw 18.4.2 applicable to the division in which the institution is a member or for which it is petitioning for eligibility in a sport~~**be an active member in good standing and list the sport on the NCAA sports sponsorship report by the established deadline for the applicable year (see Bylaw 18.2.2.1).** An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference ~~(see Bylaw 18.4.2.1 (a))~~, as well as any additional requirements specified in the applicable pre-championship manual.

~~3118.2.12.21~~ Deadline. The institutional eligibility requirements for entry into NCAA championships (~~see Bylaw 18.4.2~~) must be met by the following dates:

[18.2.2.1-(a) through 18.2.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~3118.2.12.32~~ Deadline Waivers. Institutions that fail to meet a deadline for institutional eligibility in NCAA championships may appeal to the Championships Committee for a waiver. This waiver is available only in those instances when the institution officially sponsors the sport and fails to list the sport on the NCAA sports sponsorship report prior to the appropriate deadline. If the Championships Committee grants the appeal, then the institution's eligibility may be restored for NCAA championships.

~~3118.14.32.21.1~~ Criteria for Regional Site Determination. The top-seeded team, as determined by the governing sports committee, shall be provided the opportunity to host the regional competition, provided the specific criteria that have been developed by the governing sports committee have been met as well as ~~the following~~**any** general site-selection criteria: **outlined in Championships Committee policy.**

*(a) Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;*

*(b) Revenue potential (e.g., a financial guarantee or guideline that ensures fiscal responsibility and is appropriate for the particular event, as recommended by the governing sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee); and*

*(c) Attendance history and potential.*

~~3118.4.12.2~~ Host Institution's Responsibility. The host institution shall administer the finances of an NCAA championship in accordance with ~~this bylaw~~**championship policy** and consistent with the institution's championship budget, as submitted to and approved by the governing sports committee and the Championships Committee.

~~3118.34.3~~ Criteria for Selection of Participants.

~~3118.14.3.21.1.1~~ Team Championships Pairings. Sports committees shall pair teams strictly within their regions.

~~3118.34.3.12~~ Criteria for Selection in Team Sports. To be considered for championship selection, a team must satisfy all scheduling requirements as outlined by championships policy in that sport (e.g., minimum number of Division II or in-region contests). The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition:

[18.4.3.2-(a) through 18.4.3.2-(d) unchanged.]

~~3118.34.4.3.3~~ Automatic Qualification. Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive **one** automatic qualification **position** for their teams into NCAA championships conducted in team sports, timed individual sports and other individual sports as identified in Bylaw 17.02.16. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final. ~~Before recommending that a conference receive automatic qualification, a governing sports committee shall ensure that the member conference meets the requirements specified in Bylaws 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.2.~~

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~~31.18.34.43.13.1~~ Requirements -- Division Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification in any Division II championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

- (a) Been a multisport voting member conference of the Association for five consecutive academic years (see Bylaw 7.3.5.1.3.); **and**

[18.4.3.3.1-(b) unchanged.]

~~Once a conference has satisfied the requirements for automatic qualification in a Division II championship set forth in Bylaws 31.3.4.1 (a) and 31.3.4.1 (b), the conference must also meet the following criteria:~~

- ~~(c) Conference Membership. All institutions may hold membership in only that conference in the sport in which automatic qualification is sought and may participate in only that conference's process to determine the automatic qualifier.~~
- ~~(d) Conference Competition and Selection of Champion. Conference competition conducted in accordance with Bylaw 7.1.4.2 must be conducted in the applicable sport and the conference champion in that sport must be determined not later than the date on which participants are selected for the NCAA championship, either by regular in-season conference competition or a conference meet or tournament, as indicated at the time of application.~~
- ~~(e) Conference With Subdivisions and Selection of Champion. A conference may establish subdivisions and conduct competition within each subdivision to determine a conference champion, provided each subdivision consists of at least four members. Conferences with subdivisions of four members must conduct double round-robin competition within each subdivision, plus a postseason tournament, to determine their champion. Conferences with subdivisions of five or more members may conduct either single or double round-robin competition within each subdivision, plus a postseason tournament, to determine their champion.~~
- ~~(f) Conference Selection of Champion Due to Unforeseen Circumstances.~~
  - ~~(1) Championship That Results in Tie. In the event of a tie for the conference championship, the conference shall have the responsibility of determining which team or individual shall represent the conference in NCAA competition. If a playoff is held, such competition shall be considered conference competition, not NCAA competition.~~
  - ~~(2) Unexpected Termination of Championship. If a conference's competition to determine its automatic qualifier is unexpectedly terminated (e.g., due to inclement weather), the conference may designate its qualifier, provided it has established objective criteria for making that designation and has communicated that information to the appropriate sports committee by a specified deadline.~~
- ~~(g) Conference Champion Ineligible, Declines to or Cannot Compete. All eligible member institutions must agree to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship. If a conference's automatic qualifier is ineligible to compete, declines to compete or cannot compete for any reason, automatic qualification shall be withdrawn for that year, and the remaining conference members shall be considered at large. Conference policy shall determine how a conference's automatic qualifier is determined for championship selection.~~
- ~~(h) Conference Champion Declines to Compete Based on Religious Practices. Automatic qualification for a conference shall not be withdrawn if a conference champion declines to compete in an NCAA championship for reasons related to written religious policies against competition on certain days. Under such circumstances, the conference's second-place team (as determined by the conference), shall receive the automatic bid to the NCAA championship.~~
- ~~(i) Quality of Competition. Competition in the applicable sport must be of sufficient quality to warrant automatic qualification. The criteria for determining the quality of competition shall be win-loss record and strength of schedule of both the conference as a whole and its individual member institutions.~~
- ~~(j) Conference Compliance Requirement. The conference must maintain and actively enforce compliance with eligibility rules at least as stringent as those in Bylaw 14 applicable to its members.~~

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~~(k) Impact of Nullification on Automatic Qualification for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 31.02.4 and 31.3.3 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship.~~

**31.18.34.43.73.3** Limitation on Automatic-Qualifying Positions. A member conference that satisfies the general requirements for automatic qualification is eligible for one automatic qualification per applicable sport (see Bylaws 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.2).

**31.18.34.53.4** Earned Access -- Football. The Division II Football Committee shall award earned access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship to Division II football-playing conferences for which at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. To be awarded earned access, the conference shall have a minimum of six active football-playing members. The earned access shall go to the conference's highest-ranked team in the final regional Top 10 poll.

**31.18.34.53.14.1** Requirements. To be eligible for earned access to the football championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

[18.4.3.4.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Have at least six active members that sponsor football at the varsity intercollegiate level in which earned access is sought and that are eligible for the NCAA championship, and have had at least six active members that are eligible for the NCAA championship participate in the process that determines possible earned access. Institutions that are affiliate members of a Division II football-playing conference may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for earned access in football.

~~[Once a conference has satisfied the requirements for earned access set forth in Bylaw 31.3.5.1 (a) and Bylaw 31.3.5.1 (b) the conference must also meet the following criteria:]~~

~~(c) Conference Membership. All institutions may hold membership in only that conference in football in which earned access is sought and may participate in only that conference's process to determine if earned access is provided.~~

~~(d) Conference Compliance Requirement. The conference must maintain and actively enforce compliance with eligibility rules at least as stringent as those in Bylaw 14 applicable to its members.~~

~~(e) Impact of Nullification on Earned Access for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 31.02.4 and 31.3.3 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to complete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the NCAA championship.~~

**31.18.34.63.5** Selection of Balance of Championship Field. Once the official representative(s) of each qualifying conference is determined, the governing sports committee responsible for selection of the balance of the championship field shall consider objectively and without prejudice the competitive records of all other eligible student-athletes and teams (including representatives of the other members of the conferences receiving automatic qualification). To the best of its ability, the committee shall select the most highly qualified individuals and teams to complete the championship field in accordance with the regional structure, if any, approved for the particular championship.

**31.18.35.43.21.1** Requirements -- National Collegiate Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification in a National Collegiate Championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

[18.5.3.1.1-(a) through 18.5.3.1.1-(d) unchanged.]

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~~31.18.35.74~~ Institution Trademarks. Participation in a National Collegiate Championship constitutes acquiescence by the member institution that the Association may use the institution's name, mascot and other identifying marks in championship-related activities, including television, promotion, licensing and merchandising programs incident to the championship. Revenues derived from such activities, less expenses, will be remitted to the member institution.

~~31.18.16.61.1~~ Non-NCAA Rules, Men's Sports. In those men's sports in which the Association does not publish rules, the NCAA championships shall be conducted according to the following, except where those rules are superseded by modifications recommended by the appropriate governing sports committee and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

[18.6.1-(a) through 18.6.1-(g) unchanged.]

~~31.18.16.62.2~~ Non-NCAA Rules, Women's Sports. In those women's sports in which the Association does not publish rules, the NCAA championships shall be conducted according to the following, except where those rules are superseded by modifications recommended by the appropriate governing sports committee and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

[18.6.2-(a) through 18.6.2-(h) unchanged.]

### 31 Executive Regulations

#### ~~31.01 General Principles:~~

~~31.01.1 Names of Championships. All NCAA championships (see Bylaw 18.3) have formal designations that identify their appropriate category and sport classification (see Bylaw 31.02.2). The name of each championship is the property of the Association (see Bylaw 31.6).~~

~~31.01.2 Postseason Championship Opportunities. NCAA championships are intended to provide national championship competition among the best eligible student athletes and teams at the conclusion of the respective sport seasons, with consideration for regional structures that may be approved for certain championships.~~

~~31.01.3 Size of Championships Fields. The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships. (See Bylaw 31.3.1 for the criteria to be considered in establishing the size of the championship field.)~~

~~31.01.4 Economy of Operation. Every sports committee (see Figure 21-1) and games committee (Bylaw 31.1.2) shall exercise all possible economy in the conduct of an NCAA championship.~~

#### ~~31.02 Definitions and Applications:~~

##### ~~31.02.2 Championships Classification and Terminology:~~

~~31.02.2.1 Team Championships. Team championships are those conducted for the team sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.1). The title of a team championship is always singular and is identified as a National Collegiate Championship or a division championship (e.g., National Collegiate Women's Rifle Championship, Division II Men's Basketball Championship).~~

~~31.02.2.2 Individual-Team Championships. Individual-team championships are those conducted for the individual sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.2). The title of an individual team championship is always plural, reflecting the fact that both individual and team championships are determined (e.g., National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships, Division II Women's Tennis Championships).~~

#### ~~31.1 Administration of NCAA Championships:~~

~~31.1.1 Authority of Championships and Sports Committees. As specified in Bylaw 18.1, all NCAA championships shall be conducted in accordance with the general policies established by the Championships Committee, the Management Council, the Presidents Council and/or the Board of Governors and shall be under the control, direction and supervision of the appropriate sports committees, subject to the standards and conditions set forth~~

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~~in these executive regulations. Additional policies of an administrative nature are set forth in the respective championships handbooks and are to be followed in the administration of NCAA championships.~~

~~31.1.1.1 Appeal of Decisions of Sports Committees. An appeal of a decision of a governing sports committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, concerning questions of individual or institutional eligibility or the conduct of a championship will not be considered by the Championships Committee at any time during the championship or 48 hours immediately before the championship. During such period, the governing sports committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, shall be the final authority in acting upon appeals concerning the conduct of the championship, subject to the provisions of Bylaw 31.2 regarding institutional and individual eligibility questions.~~

~~31.1.1.2 Appeal of Nullification Decisions of Championships Committee. An appeal of a nullification will be considered by the Championship Committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, within 72 business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m. in all time zones) of a nullification decision. During such period, the Championships Committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, shall be the final authority acting on appeals concerning nullification decisions.~~

~~31.1.1.3 Waivers. The NCAA president shall be authorized to grant waivers of executive regulations governing the conduct of an NCAA championship when warranted by special and unusual circumstances.~~

~~31.1.2 Games Committee. The governing sports committee shall appoint a games committee to supervise actively the conduct of each championship session. The games committee conducting any NCAA championship shall limit participation to eligible student athletes and may limit the number of entries or reject any application for entry in any event in order that the competition shall best promote the welfare and interest of the sport involved.~~

~~31.1.3 Sites and Dates. The governing sports committees recommend to the Championships Committee the sites and dates for all NCAA championships.~~

~~31.1.3.1 Championships Committee Approval. Championships Committee approval shall be obtained before final site commitments are made to the host institution or any other individual or organization associated with the management of an NCAA championship. However, in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball, the governing sports committees are authorized to select sites for preliminary rounds of competition without prior Championships Committee approval.~~

~~31.1.3.2 Site Selection. The governing sports committees shall evaluate prospective sites for NCAA championships in terms of the specific criteria approved by the Championships Committee. The division championships committees may assign specific priorities to these criteria for their respective championships. These shall be specified in the appropriate pre-championships manuals. A governing sports committee that desires to use additional criteria shall obtain Championships Committee approval before doing so.~~

~~31.1.3.2.2 Criteria for National Championship Site Determination. The following criteria are to be used in the evaluation of sites for all national championships:~~

- ~~(a) Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;~~
- ~~(b) Revenue potential (e.g., financial guarantee or guideline that ensures fiscal responsibility and is appropriate for the particular event, as recommended by the governing sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee);~~
- ~~(c) Attendance history and potential; and~~
- ~~(d) Geographical location (e.g., a site that minimizes travel expenses).~~

~~31.1.3.2.3 Nonpredetermined Site. When a championship site is not predetermined, the governing sports committee may award the site to the higher-ranked team if the above criteria, and any priorities established by the respective division championships committee, are met.~~

~~31.1.3.2.4 On-Campus Versus Off-Campus Sites. Preference shall be given to conducting competition on the grounds or in the buildings of educational institutions unless there are compelling reasons, based on evaluation of the criteria in Bylaw 31.1.3.2.1 (which shall be applied to both on-campus and off-campus sites), to conduct the competition in an off-campus facility. In those instances in which it is advisable to~~

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~~conduct the competition at off-campus sites, the host institution(s) shall have complete control, supervision and management of the facility being used.~~

~~31.1.3.2.5 Reconsideration of Host Institution. The Championships Committee may reconsider the designation of a host institution for an NCAA championship if that institution's team or individual student-athletes are not eligible to compete in the championship.~~

~~31.1.3.3 Concluding Dates. NCAA championships competition shall be concluded not later than May 31 each year unless later dates are approved by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.4 Day of Competition. NCAA championships competition may be scheduled or conducted on any day, provided the governing sports committee has received the prior approval of the Championships Committee and the following regulations are applied.~~

~~31.1.4.1 Institutional Policy. If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office prior to September 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution.~~

~~31.1.4.2 Individual Championships. In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (i.e., if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).~~

~~31.1.4.3 Rescheduling, Emergency or Competitive Development. If an emergency develops that causes postponement of an NCAA championship, or if the competitive situation dictates a more expeditious completion of the meet or tournament, Sunday competition may be permitted, provided the competing institutions are agreeable and advance approval is obtained from the Division II Championships Committee or the relevant sports committee.~~

~~31.1.4.4 Noon Start Time. NCAA competition conducted on Sunday may not begin before noon, local time.~~

~~31.1.4.4.1 Exception. Sports committees may reschedule competition to begin prior to noon on Sunday if extenuating circumstances arise (e.g., weather) that would otherwise cause postponement of the championship.~~

~~31.1.4.4.2 Exception—Women's Rowing Championship. In instances where the final day of the women's rowing championship occurs on a Sunday, competition may begin prior to noon.~~

~~31.1.4.4.3 Exception—Men's and Women's Fencing Championships. Competition conducted on Sunday in the men's and women's fencing championships may begin prior to noon.~~

~~31.1.5 Squad Limits. In any championship where a squad limit has been established by the governing sports committee or by the bylaws, the number of eligible student athletes in competitive uniform at the start of the competition shall not exceed the prescribed number. An institution that is advised that it is in violation of this regulation and that does not promptly conform to it automatically shall forfeit the competition. There shall be no inordinate delay of the competition to allow the institution to conform to the rule.~~

~~31.1.6 Playing Rules.~~

~~31.1.7 Medical Disqualification. The student athlete's team physician shall examine each athlete injured during NCAA competition and make a recommendation to the athlete, the coach and the chair of the governing sports committee, or the chair's designated representative, as to the advisability of continued participation or disqualification of the athlete. In the absence of said team physician, the NCAA tournament physician, as recommended by the host institution and approved by the governing sports committee, shall examine the injured athlete and make a recommendation as noted above. The chair of the governing sports committee, or the chair's designated representative, shall be responsible for enforcement of the medical recommendation if it involves disqualification.~~

~~31.1.8 Misconduct. Each games committee shall hold a pretournament meeting with the coaches of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct (as defined in Bylaw 31.02.3).~~

~~31.1.8.1 Hearing Opportunity. An act of misconduct may be found upon an administrative hearing granted to the student athlete or the institutional representative involved by the Appeals Subcommittee.~~



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~~31.1.8.2 Misconduct Incident to Competition. If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition in which they are participating at the time of the incident. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition and conduct the hearing after this action. Other acts of misconduct shall be dealt with in a timely manner by the governing sports committee.~~

~~31.1.8.3 Penalty for Misconduct. A governing sports committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice:~~

~~(a) Public or private reprimand of the individual;~~

~~(b) Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship involved;~~

~~(c) Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more future championships of the sport involved;~~

~~(d) Cancellation of payment to the institution of the Association's travel guarantee for the individual involved;~~

~~(e) Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;~~

~~(f) Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships;~~

~~(g) Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship; and~~

~~(h) Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (g) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.8.4 Ban From Future Championship. When a student-athlete or institutional representative is banned from participation in a future championship, such penalty shall be applied to the next tournament(s) in which the individual's team is involved and the individual otherwise is eligible to participate. In the case of an individual event, the penalty shall be applied to the next meet(s) or tournament(s) for which the individual qualifies and otherwise is eligible to participate.~~

~~31.1.8.5 Review of Action. Any action related to misconduct may be reviewed by the governing sports committee on request of any institution participating in the championship.~~

### ~~31.1.9 Failure to Adhere to Policies and Procedures.~~

~~31.1.9.1 Financial Penalties. Pursuant to established policies and procedures, a governing sports committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing championships administration, subject to review by and appeal to the Appeals Subcommittee.~~

~~31.1.9.2 Late-Entry Fines. Institutions shall not be charged entry fees for teams or student-athletes competing in NCAA championships, but governing sports committees may establish late-entry fines, subject to the approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.10 Awards. The Association has created standard, participant and commemorative awards for individuals and teams that participate in NCAA championships. The number of such awards for each championship shall be determined by the governing sports committee, subject to the approval of the Championships Committee. These official NCAA awards shall be the only awards presented by the Association to teams and individuals for participation in NCAA championships competition and shall be the only awards presented at the site of an NCAA championship. "At the site" is intended to include the period from the time access to the site is available to spectators until all patrons have left the facility or area used for competition.~~

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*31.1.10.1 Additional Awards. An institution may purchase additional standard, participant or commemorative awards for participation in NCAA championships. There is no limit on the number of additional awards an institution may purchase. An institution may provide, at its discretion, the awards to any individual. The NCAA awards form shall be used to purchase additional awards.*

*31.1.10.2 Other Permissible Awards. The above provision places no restriction on the presentation of awards at banquets or meetings held in conjunction with the championship or at sites other than that of the championships competition itself.*

*31.1.11 Admission and Tickets. Admission shall be charged at all NCAA championships unless a governing sports committee determines that charging admission is not feasible because of facility configuration or the expense relative to the event's attendance history. Ticket prices shall be determined by the respective games committees with the approval of the governing sports committee.*

*31.2.1.1 Commitment to Participate. Eligible members in a sport who are not also members of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) will participate (if selected) in the NCAA championship or in no postseason competition in that sport.*

*31.2.1.2.1 Compliance With Deadline. Any dues check or approved form required shall be received in the national office by the applicable date or must have been postmarked not later than seven days before the applicable date.*

*31.2.1.3.1 Penalty for Deadline Waiver. Such an institution that fails to meet a deadline a future time may be granted a waiver only on payment of a penalty of \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for each additional offense during the five-year period after the last offense. On approval of the Championships Committee of such waiver and receipt of the institution's check in the national office, the institution may compete in NCAA championships, provided it is otherwise eligible.*

*31.2.1.4 Joint Declaration Program. The NCAA, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association (NCCAA), respectively, will administer a joint-declaration program in those men's and women's sports in which there is a date conflict between the national championships of the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA. In such championships, each institution that holds membership in the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA must declare by August 15 each year whether it will participate (if selected) in the NAIA championship or in the NCCAA championship, in the NCAA championship or in no postseason competition in that sport. An institution that fails to submit the joint-declaration form by the established deadline shall be ineligible to compete in the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA championships in the particular sport(s) that year. An appeal process exists for such institutions. An institution in the joint-declaration program may participate in the championship for which the institution declared, even when the championship occurs outside the permissible NCAA playing season. Institutions in the joint-declaration program must abide by all other NCAA regulations for all sports, including the length of the playing season.*

*31.2.1.5 National Collegiate Championships. In team sports in which the NCAA offers only one national championship, all member institutions in good standing are eligible to compete in accordance with the requirements of division membership (see Bylaw 7.3.2.1) and institutional eligibility (per Bylaw 31.2.1).*

*31.2.1.6 Division Championships. In those sports in which national championship competition is offered in more than one division, only those member institutions that meet the membership requirements of the respective divisions or requirements applicable to institutions competing outside their membership divisions are eligible to compete in such division championships (see Bylaw 7).*

*31.2.1.7.1 Failure to Report Ineligible Player Prior to Selection. If an institution fails to report an ineligible player before being selected to participate in the championship, the governing sports committee may declare the institution ineligible to participate in the tournament for one or two years.*

*31.2.1.7.2 Discovery of Ineligibility of Player Following Selection. When an institution fails to report an ineligible player and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another member institution participates in the championship in place of the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete(s) occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sports committee does*

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~~not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.~~

~~31.2.1.7.3 Review of Violation of Terms of Availability Questionnaire. When an institution is alleged to have violated the terms of an availability questionnaire (e.g., failing to report an ineligible student-athlete), it may be represented at the meeting of the governing sports committee when the committee determines whether a violation occurred and, if so, whether the institution shall be ineligible to participate in the tournament for one or more years. The institution may submit a written statement or make an in-person presentation, or both. After the governing sports committee has ruled on the matter, its decision shall be final unless the institution appeals the decision to the Championships Committee. The Championships Committee shall hear the appeal at one of its regularly scheduled meetings unless there are compelling reasons to conduct a special meeting for such purpose.~~

~~31.2.1.7.4 Protest Regarding Eligibility of Team. Any team that has been duly certified as eligible for an NCAA championship shall not be withheld from participation because of any protest made or filed during the progress of the competition or during a period 24 hours immediately before the championship. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, a team may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided such protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.~~

~~31.2.2 Student-Athlete Eligibility. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in an NCAA championship, an institution shall recognize the sport involved as a varsity intercollegiate sport (see Bylaws 7.3.1.5.4 and 17.02.16) and shall meet the institutional requirements in Bylaw 18.4.2 applicable to the division in which the institution is a member or for which it is petitioning for eligibility in a sport, as well as any additional requirements specified in the applicable championships handbooks. All student-athletes must satisfy all general eligibility requirements established for NCAA championships participation. The general and academic eligibility requirements are set forth in detail in Bylaw 14. Other specific requirements for eligibility for NCAA championships are included in other bylaws in this Manual and are applicable and binding for championships participation.~~

~~31.2.2.1 Eligibility Requirements. A member institution shall not enter a student-athlete, as an individual or as a member of a team, in an NCAA championship unless the student-athlete satisfies all eligibility requirements of Bylaw 14.~~

~~31.2.2.2 Conference Eligibility. An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference [see Bylaw 18.4.2.1 (a)].~~

~~31.2.2.3 Protest of Eligibility Status. Any student-athlete duly certified by the institution for an NCAA championship shall not be withheld from participation because of any protest made or filed during the championship or during the 24 hours immediately before the championship. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.~~

~~31.2.2.5 Institutional Penalty for Ineligible Participation. When an ineligible student-athlete participates in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete or the institution knew or had reason to know of the ineligibility, the Committee on Infractions may prescribe a financial penalty.~~

~~31.2.3 Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. See Bylaw 18.4.1.4 for further details regarding ineligibility for use of banned drugs.~~

~~31.2.3.1.2 Positive Drug Test — Non-NCAA Athletics Organization. A student-athlete under a drug-testing suspension from a national or international sports governing body that has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code shall not participate in NCAA intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.~~

~~31.3 Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation. A list of the institutions in good standing shall be supplied by the championships staff liaison to the chair of each governing sports committee prior to selection of the championship participants in each Division II championship sport.~~

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~~31.3.1 Size of Championships Fields. The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships.~~

~~31.3.2 Selection Decisions of Sports Committees. The determination of sites, selection of teams or individuals, or their site assignment in championships competition made by a governing sports committee (or a designated subcommittee) may not be appealed.~~

~~31.3.3.1.1 Countable Competition. For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Bylaw 7.3.1.5.4) of four-year, degree-granting institutions located in Canada, Mexico and the United States, its territories or possessions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.~~

~~31.3.3.2 Qualifying Standards in Individual and Team Sports. Individuals and teams required to meet performance standards to qualify for NCAA championships competition shall achieve such standards in meets held during the same academic year as the particular championship.~~

~~31.3.3.3 Unavailable Players on Team. The presence on a varsity squad of one or more players who are unavailable for NCAA championships competition does not necessarily disqualify that team from consideration.~~

~~31.3.3.4 Nullification(s) When a Student-Athlete Participates in Competition While Ineligible for Use of Banned Drugs. Nullifications shall only be imposed when an institution permits a student-athlete to participate in intercollegiate competition after the institution and the student-athlete receive notification of the confirmed positive drug test.~~

~~31.3.3.5 Committee Member Participation in Selection Process. All members of a governing sports committee may participate in committee deliberations and vote on the teams or student-athlete(s) under consideration for selection. If a team or student-athlete(s) of the institution of a member of the governing sports committee is under consideration for selection a member of the regional advisory committee in that sport, who represents another member conference, shall participate in the discussions affecting that particular selection.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1 Waiver Opportunity. The conference shall advise the NCAA championships staff in writing by September 1 of each year whether it wishes the selection process set forth in Bylaw 31.3.3.5 to be applied or waived. Once the conference has indicated its intention regarding the application or waiver of this regulation, it may not be changed during that year.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1.1 First Waiver. Conferences that fail to meet the deadline may appeal to the Management Council for a waiver of the deadline. Such an appeal must be submitted to the national office not later than October 15. If the Management Council grants the appeal, the conference shall be granted a waiver.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1.2 After Waivers. Such a conference that fails to meet the September 1 deadline in a future year may be granted a waiver only on payment of a penalty of \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for each additional offense during the five-year period after the last offense. On approval of the Management Council of such waiver and receipt of the conference's check in the national office, the conference may use the selection process set forth in Bylaw 31.3.3.5, provided it is otherwise eligible to do so.~~

~~31.3.3.6 Exclusion of Institution Reclassifying From Division II to Division I. In all sports, any Division II institution that has forwarded to the national office written notice of its intention to change its membership classification to Division I, no longer shall be eligible to participate in any future NCAA Division II championship.~~

~~31.3.4.3 Notification, Automatic Qualification in Jeopardy. The Championships Committee must issue a written warning to a conference that is in jeopardy of losing its automatic qualification. The warning must be~~

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~~issued during the academic year prior to the potential loss of automatic qualification. (Note: This regulation does not apply to championships in which a play-in system has been established.)~~

~~31.3.4.4 Exception—Multisport Conference. A multisport conference that adds a conference-sponsored sport may be considered for automatic qualification in that sport, provided the conference includes at least six active NCAA Division II institutions that have conducted conference competition together at the Division II level in the sport the preceding two years and the sport is sponsored by less than 50 percent of the Division II membership.~~

~~31.3.4.5 Grace Period. A conference shall remain eligible for automatic qualification for three years following the date of withdrawal of the institution(s) that causes the conference's membership to fall below the minimum number of institutions required for active membership, provided the conference remains within one member institution of that minimum number.~~

~~31.3.4.6 Sport Groupings for Automatic Qualification. For purposes of evaluating criteria for automatic qualification, the various sports shall be grouped as follows:~~

~~(a) Team sports—baseball, basketball, bowling, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball and water polo;~~

~~(b) Timed individual sports—indoor track and field, outdoor track and field, and swimming; and~~

~~(c) Other individual sports—cross-country, fencing, golf, gymnastics, rifle, skiing and men's wrestling.~~

~~31.3.4.8 Waiver—Five-Year Waiting Period. The Championships Committee, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may grant a waiver for an active member conference of the five-year waiting period for automatic qualification set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.2 (a).~~

~~31.3.4.9 Waiver—Minimum Number of Members in a Conference. The Membership Committee, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may grant a waiver for an active member conference that falls below the required minimum number of active institutions set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.2 (c), if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The Management Council shall hear and act on a conference's appeal of a decision made by the Membership Committee.~~

~~31.3.5.2 Grace Period. A football-playing conference shall remain eligible for earned access for three years following the date of withdrawal of the institution(s) that causes the conference's membership to fall below six football-playing institutions, provided the conference maintains at least five active football-playing members.~~

### 31.4 Financial Administration of Championships.

~~31.4.1.1 Institution's Financial Report. A financial report from each championship site shall be submitted to the NCAA president not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the competition and shall bear certification of the athletics director of the host institution. The report shall be submitted on a form approved and provided by the NCAA president.~~

~~31.4.1.1.1 Exclusions. A host institution or sponsoring agency shall not include, in its financial report or in its percentage of net receipts, television rights fees or income from the sale of championships merchandise. Also, income from program advertising or sales shall not be included in the host institution's or sponsoring agency's financial report or percentage of net receipts if the program is produced and sold under contract between the NCAA and an outside agency.~~

~~31.4.2 Gross Receipts. Gross receipts shall be all revenues derived from the championship, including:~~

~~(a) Sale of tickets. All tickets shall be accounted for at face value and shall become a part of gross receipts. Working passes may be provided to bona fide working personnel, including media representatives; and participation passes may be provided to student-athletes competing in the championship, as well as to their coaches, athletic trainers, managers and other members of the participating institution's official party as defined by the Association;~~

~~(b) Net revenue from marketing items sold at the site through or by an outside agency under contract with the NCAA;~~

~~(c) Program sales and advertising;~~

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~~(d) Radio, television and movie rights; and~~

~~(e) Any other income derived from the operation of the championship.~~

~~31.4.2.1 Exclusions. Income from concessions and parking shall accrue to the host institution or sponsoring agency and is not included in gross receipts. Sales commissions received by a host institution for selling marketing items on behalf of an outside agency under contract with the NCAA shall accrue to the host institution.~~

~~31.4.2.2 Waiver. Any waiver of the policies for the gross receipts of championships shall be approved in advance by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.3 Game Expenses. Game expenses are the actual costs directly related to the administration and conduct of the championship, including specifically the costs for tickets (printing, selling and collecting), sales taxes, ushers, game officials, police, buildings and grounds expenses, printing of related materials, motion pictures of the competition (if authorized by the Championships Committee), reasonable entertainment, expenses of selection committees authorized by the governing sports committee and any other out-of-pocket expense directly related to the administration and conduct of the championship.~~

~~31.4.3.1 Exclusions. The following items shall not be included as game expenses:~~

~~(a) The cost of permanent equipment, local transportation of competing teams and on-campus facility rental charges; and~~

~~(b) A fee or honorarium for athletics department staff members of the host institution (e.g., athletics director, assistant athletics director, business manager, ticket manager, coach, sports information director or athletic trainer). (Note: Such a payment could be made from the host institution's share of net receipts.)~~

~~31.4.3.2 Waiver. Any waiver of the policies for game expenses shall be approved in advance by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.4 Institutional Allowance. The host institution may share in the balance remaining after game expenses are deducted from the gross receipts. Television rights fees and income from championships programs and merchandise produced and sold under contract between the NCAA and an outside agency shall not be included in determining the host institution's allowance.~~

~~31.4.4.1 Permissible Allowances. The amount of institutional allowance varies with the sport, the level of championships competition, whether there is a common site for men's and women's championships and whether an institution's facilities are used. The permissible institutional allowances (from balance of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses) are as follows:~~

	TEAM <sup>1,2,3</sup>		INDIVIDUAL <sup>1,2,3</sup>	
	Preliminary	Final	Preliminary	Final
One day	\$575	\$1,150	\$700	\$1,725
Two days	\$750	\$1,450	\$870	\$2,000
Three or more days	\$920	\$1,725	\$1,150	\$2,300

<sup>1</sup>~~For championships conducted at institutional facilities, hosts may deduct the permissible allowance above or a maximum of 15 percent of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses, whichever is greater.~~

<sup>2</sup>~~For championships conducted at off-campus facilities, hosts may deduct the permissible allowance or a maximum of 10 percent of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses, on the recommendation of the sports committee and approval of the Championships Committee.~~

<sup>3</sup>~~Amount is doubled for common-site men's and women's championships.~~

~~31.4.4.2 Restrictions. The following restrictions apply to allowances to host institutions:~~

~~(a) If an institution's department of intercollegiate athletics must pay a rental fee for the use of an on-campus facility, such fee shall be deducted from the institution's share of the net receipts or allowance; and~~

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~~(b) No other sum from the receipts of an NCAA championship, or from any other source, shall be paid to the college or university sponsoring or acting as host of the NCAA championship except to cover actual and necessary expenses directly incurred in the conduct of the championship as noted in Bylaw 31.4.3.~~

~~31.4.5 Administrative Expenses. After the institution's allowance has been deducted, the athletics director of the host institution shall forward the remaining receipts to the NCAA president, who then deducts administrative expenses and costs incurred by governing sports committees and their representatives in matters of championships administration.~~

~~31.4.6 Transportation and Per Diem Expenses. Subject to the availability of funds, the Association may pay transportation and per diem expenses incurred by teams and individual competitors in NCAA championships competition. Transportation expenses and per diem allowances for the official traveling parties of competing institutions in Division II championships, National Collegiate Championships and individual team championships shall be determined and provided in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Championships Committee. On an annual basis, the Championships Committee shall determine and announce to the membership the percentage of transportation expense and the per diem allowance to be paid in each championship for the next academic year.~~

~~31.4.7 Net Receipts. After payment of game and administrative expenses for each championship, the NCAA president shall place the remaining moneys in the general operating fund of the Association to be used to cover other expenses of the Association and to be apportioned among member institutions, as directed by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.8 Distribution of Forfeited Receipts. An institution may be obligated to return its share of the revenue distribution for permitting an ineligible student athlete to participate in the championship (see Bylaw 31.2.2.5). If so, such funds shall be distributed among other member institutions according to a formula prescribed by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.9 Publication of Championships Financial Summaries. A financial summary of each championship shall be published in the membership reports of the Association.~~

[31.6 through 31.8 renumbered as 31.1 through 31.3, unchanged.]

**31.94 National Statistics Program.** A national statistics program shall be maintained for active member institutions in baseball, men's and women's basketball, field hockey, football, men's and women's ice hockey, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer, softball, and men's and women's volleyball. ~~The Management Council shall oversee the statistics program and approve its policies and procedures.~~ The national statistics program policies and procedures shall be published on the NCAA website.

### Additional Information:

When the Division II Implementation Committee was established to review the division's policies and procedures after the new NCAA Constitution was adopted at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the committee created topic-specific subcommittees to help complete its task. Among the duties assigned to the Championships Subcommittee was to review Bylaws 18 and 31 as they relate to Division II national championships and determine which of those rules should remain as legislation, which could be moved to policy, and which (if any) could be removed altogether. The subcommittee reviewed each rule within Bylaws 18 and 31 with those parameters in mind and worked with staff to draft revisions as appropriate. Once the Implementation Committee completed its work in August 2022, this item was among those referred to the Division II Championships Committee for final review.

### Review History:

Feb 24, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Championships Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT -- STANDARDIZED DATES FOR END OF GRACE PERIOD

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-8

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To permit the NCAA Eligibility Center to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the standard end date of the prospective student-athlete's grace period.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.2, as follows:

14.2 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.10 and 14.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

[14.2.1 through 14.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

[14.2.4.1 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not ~~enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after the one calendar-year period has elapsed) following their high school graduation date~~ **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 ~~the one-year time period~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2.

[14.2.4.2.1 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2.1.3 Discontinued High School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one calendar year has elapsed)~~ **October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed** following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

[14.2.4.2.1.2 through 14.2.4.2.1.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2.2 Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition. 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**, shall not be charged with a season of



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intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 following **October 1 or March 1** ~~to one-year time period after the individual's high school graduation~~ and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

[14.2.4.2.2.1 through 14.2.4.2.2.4 unchanged.]

[14.2.4.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.3 Road Racing. Participation in road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Therefore, an individual who does not ~~enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-calendar year time period following high school graduation~~ **cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date** and participates in a road race(s) shall use one season of intercollegiate competition in cross country and track and field for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~the one-year time period~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The individual shall also fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in cross country or track and field competition.

[14.2.4.4 through 14.2.4.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.5 through 14.2.7 unchanged.]

### Additional Information:

Under current legislation, during the amateurism certification process, the NCAA Eligibility Center staff are required to utilize varying dates to identify the conclusion of an individual's grace period, creating confusion and lack of uniformity. Because of this, the NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief issued a blanket waiver in February 2022 to permit the Eligibility Center staff to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the end date of their grace period for the 2022-23 academic year. The utilization of a standard date through the blanket waiver created more consistency and flexibility and helped to ensure simplified messaging was provided to all prospects regarding when organized competition prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment must end. Permitting the Eligibility Center staff to utilize a standard date (October 1 or March 1) in determining the end of a prospective student-athlete's grace period, will provide more consistency and flexibility for prospective student-athletes and ensure consistent educational messaging related to the amateurism certification process.

### Review History:

Feb 1, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** AMATEURISM -- VARIOUS BYLAWS -- DEFINITION OF AGENT AND USE OF AGENTS -- EFFECTIVE DATE

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023, for any prospective student-athlete initially enrolling full-time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2023.

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-9

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Amateurism

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To amend the effective date of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-8 from August 1, 2023, to August 1, 2023, for any prospective student-athlete initially enrolling full-time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2023.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 12.02, as follows:

12.02 Definitions and Applications.

12.02.1 Agent. An agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract for current or future representation where a student-athlete authorizes the individual to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

12.02.2 Agency Contract. An agency contract is an agreement in which a student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

[12.02.3 through 12.02.11 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 12.2.4, as follows:

12.2.4 Draft and Inquiry.

[12.2.4.1 unchanged.]

12.2.4.2 Draft List. An enrolled student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft an unlimited number of times during their collegiate career and be drafted by any team in the league without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided the student-athlete **(or their relatives or friends)** does not **accept transportation or other material benefits from** ~~ever agree (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent or any person who represents any individual in for the purposes of~~ marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport, sign a professional sport contract or otherwise jeopardize their eligibility status.

12.2.4.3 Negotiations. An individual may request information about professional market value without affecting their eligibility status. Further, the individual, their relatives or legal guardians, the institution's professional sports counseling panel or head coach may enter into negotiations with a professional sports organization without the loss of the individual's eligibility status. ~~An individual who retains an agent in order to secure a professional sports opportunity shall lose eligibility status.~~

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 12.3, as follows:

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### 12.3 Use of Agents.

12.3.1 General Rule. An individual shall be ineligible if they (or their relatives or friends) accept transportation or other material benefits from an agent or any person who represents any individual in the marketing of their athletics ability.

12.3.1.1 Representation for Future Negotiations. An individual may enter into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations.

12.3.2 Professional Service Provider. An individual may utilize a professional service provider for advice and activities related to an individual's name, image and likeness.

12.3.3 Agent to Secure Athletics Scholarship. An individual shall be ineligible if they enter into an agreement (orally or in writing) with an agent for securing initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution.

[12.3.4 unchanged.]

### Additional Information:

Historically, the effective dates on legislative proposals impacting amateurism have been tied to the academic year in which a prospective student-athlete initially enrolls full-time to ensure equal treatment of incoming recruiting classes. With the proposal's current August 1, 2023, effective date, prospective student-athletes within the same incoming recruiting class (e.g., the incoming 2023-24 class) may be certified under different legislation. Amending the effective date will permit equal application of the legislation to incoming prospective student-athletes.

### Review History:

Mar 22, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jun 6, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Administrative Committee.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- MINIMUM CONTESTS AND PARTICIPANTS REQUIREMENTS FOR SPORTS SPONSORSHIP -- FOOTBALL, MEN'S GOLF, WOMEN'S GOLF AND MEN'S LACROSSE

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-10

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership and Institutional Control.

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** In the sports of football, men's golf, women's golf and men's lacrosse, to amend the minimum number of contests and participants for sports sponsorship, as specified.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3, as follows:

7.3 Active Membership.

7.3.1 Institutions.

[7.3.1.1 through 7.3.1.7 unchanged.]

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

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Team Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants	Individual Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants
Acrobatics and Tumbling	6	18	Women's Bowling	8	5
Baseball	24		Cross Country	4	5
Basketball	22		Equestrian	6	12
Beach Volleyball	8		Men's Fencing	6	5
Field Hockey	10		Women's Fencing	6	5
Football	<del>8</del> <b>9</b>		Golf	<del>6</del> <b>7</b>	5
Men's Ice Hockey	20		Men's Gymnastics	6	6
Women's Ice Hockey	20		Women's Gymnastics	6	5
Men's Lacrosse	<del>8</del> <b>10</b>		Rifle	8	4
Women's Lacrosse	10		Skiing	5	5
Women's Rowing	6		Swimming and Diving	8	11
Women's Rugby	9		Tennis	10	5
Soccer	10		Track and Field, Indoor	4	10
Softball	24		Track and Field, Outdoor	4	14
Stunt	8	16	Men's Wrestling	9	6
Men's Volleyball	9		Women's Wrestling	9	6
Women's Volleyball	15		Women's Triathlon	4	3
Men's Water Polo	15				
Women's Water Polo	10				

[7.3.1.7.1.1.1 through 7.3.1.7.1.1.11 unchanged.]

[7.3.2 through 7.3.5 unchanged.]

### Additional Information:

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Among the referrals from the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee to the NCAA Division II Membership Committee was to collaborate with the NCAA Division II Championships Committee to consider aligning minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship and championships selection purposes. The referral occurred after the Implementation Committee's championships and membership subcommittees each noted the differences in select sports in these two categories and agreed it would be best to conduct a more collaborative review to arrive at numbers that provide a more simple, consistent and equitable process among sports. The review included feedback from sport committees that currently have different standards (football, men's and women's golf, men's lacrosse and men's soccer). The only sport for which the final recommendation differed significantly from the sport committee proposal was men's soccer, which had proposed retaining the 15-contest requirement for championship selection purposes. However, both the Membership Committee and the Championships Committee believed that doing so would not align the numbers for sports sponsorship and championship selection, and that mirroring the sports sponsorship requirement of 10 contests is a more flexible option for institutions (retaining the in-region contest requirement for championships selection mirrors the current sports sponsorship minimums) and aligns with the requirements in women's soccer in the number of contests.

### Review History:

Apr 13, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Membership Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL PERIOD -- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM -- REMOVAL OF INSTITUTIONAL SELF-STUDY GUIDE

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-11

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership and Institutional Control.

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that institutions in year one of the provisional process must complete a comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG).

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.4, as follows:

7.4 Provisional Membership.

7.4.1 Institutions – Change of Division Membership (All Sports).

[7.4.1.1 through 7.4.1.4 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5 Division II Membership Process. Institutions seeking to become active members of Division II in all sports must successfully complete all requirements of the Division II membership process, as specified in Bylaw 7.4.

[7.4.1.5.1 through 7.4.1.5.2 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5.3 Provisional Period. Once an institution receives notice that it has been accepted to begin the Division II membership process, the institution shall enter the provisional period of the membership process on September 1, the beginning of practice in any sport for the fall term or the first day of classes for that fall term, whichever occurs first, following the acceptance of the application. The provisional period shall be a minimum of three years. At the completion of the three-year period, the institution shall receive a determination of its readiness to proceed to active membership.

7.4.1.5.3.1 Assessment Program. Institutions are required to satisfy the following requirements during the provisional period:

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(1) unchanged.]

*(2) A comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Division II Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG);*

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(3) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(9) renumbered as 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(2) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(8), unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(b) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.2 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

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[7.4.1.6 through 7.4.1.8 unchanged.]

[7.4.2 unchanged.]

### **Additional Information:**

With the adoption of NCAA Proposal No. 2023-2 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control -- active membership -- institutions -- conditions and obligations of active membership -- elimination of self-study and evaluation), active Division II member institutions are no longer required to complete the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG). While understanding that the provisional membership process may include standards not required for active membership, the NCAA Division II Membership Committee noted that the institution's work with the NCAA vendor throughout the provisional membership process covers most topics included in the ISSG, resulting in duplicative work. Further, provisional member institutions are required to submit an annual report each year of the provisional membership process, which can be used to include topics in the ISSG that are not addressed by the vendor.

### **Review History:**

Apr 13, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Membership Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL PERIOD -- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM -- DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS ATTENDANCE AT THE NCAA INCLUSION FORUM

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** April 20, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-12

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership and Institutional Control.

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To add the director of athletics as a required institutional representative at the NCAA Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.4, as follows:

7.4 Provisional Membership.

7.4.1 Institutions – Change of Division Membership (All Sports).

[7.4.1.1 through 7.4.1.4 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5 Division II Membership Process. Institutions seeking to become active members of Division II in all sports must successfully complete all requirements of the Division II membership process, as specified in Bylaw 7.4.

[7.4.1.5.1 through 7.4.1.5.2 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5.3 Provisional Period. Once an institution receives notice that it has been accepted to begin the Division II membership process, the institution shall enter the provisional period of the membership process on September 1, the beginning of practice in any sport for the fall term or the first day of classes for that fall term, whichever occurs first, following the acceptance of the application. The provisional period shall be a minimum of three years. At the completion of the three-year period, the institution shall receive a determination of its readiness to proceed to active membership.

7.4.1.5.3.1 Assessment Program. Institutions are required to satisfy the following requirements during the provisional period:

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d) unchanged.]

(1) Attendance at the NCAA Inclusion Forum. Institutional representatives required to attend are the **director of athletics**, senior woman administrator and a senior level administrator outside of athletics;

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(d)-(2) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d)-(3) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.2 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.6 through 7.4.1.8 unchanged.]

[7.4.2 unchanged.]

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### Additional Information:

Currently, provisional member institutions are required to have their senior woman administrator and a senior-level administrator outside of athletics attend the NCAA Inclusion Forum at least one time during the three-year provisional membership process. During its review of the provisional membership process, the Division II Membership Committee noted that including the director of athletics as a required staff member to attend the Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process would provide that individual with invaluable education and resources to enhance efforts on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging initiatives.

### Review History:

Apr 13, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Membership Committee.

Apr 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY AND COMMITTEES -- GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND COMMON COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEES WITH GOVERNANCE ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES -- HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW COMMITTEE AND STUDENT RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** June 5, 2023

**Effective Date:** January 10, 2024

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-13

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility and Committees

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Student Records Review Committee; further, to amend the duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.1, as follows:

14.1 General Eligibility Requirements.

[14.1.1 through 14.1.2 unchanged.]

14.1.2.3 High School Review Committee. The High School Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to ~~the academic review of~~ **reviewing the validity of any** high schools ~~and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements~~ **and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials**. ~~A~~**The** review may result in a determination that a high school **or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials** shall not be used ~~for the purpose of meeting~~ **to meet** initial-eligibility requirements. The **committee's** policies and procedures ~~for the review~~ shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.4.2.)

~~14.1.2.4 Student Records Review Committee. The Student Records Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.5.2.)~~

[14.1.2.5 renumbered as 14.1.2.4, unchanged.]

[14.1.3 through 14.1.11 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 21.6, as follows:

[Common provision, Divisions I and II only, divided vote]

21.6 Common Committees -- Committees With Governance Administration Responsibilities.

[21.6.1 through 21.6.4 unchanged.]

21.6.4.2 Duties. The committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to ~~the academic review of~~ **reviewing the validity of any** high schools ~~and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements~~ **and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials**. ~~A~~**The** review may result in a

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determination that a high school or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used ~~for the purpose of meeting~~ **to meet** initial-eligibility requirements. The committee's policies and procedures ~~for the review and determination of the validity of a high school~~ shall be approved by the Division I Committee on Academics and the Division II Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 14.1.2.3.)

[21.6.4.3 through 21.6.4.4 unchanged.]

### ~~21.6.5 Student Records Review Committee.~~

~~21.6.5.1 Composition. The committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:~~

- ~~(a) One admissions officer of a Division I or Division II institution;~~
- ~~(b) One staff member of a Division I or Division II institution or conference office;~~
- ~~(c) One staff member of a Division I institution or conference;~~
- ~~(d) One representative from the Division II Academic Requirements Committee;~~
- ~~(e) Four representatives from the secondary school community; and~~
- ~~(f) One member selected at large from either the secondary school community or a Division I or Division II institution or conference office.~~

~~21.6.5.2 Duties. The committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for review of academic credentials and the determination of the validity of such credentials shall be approved by the Division I Committee on Academics and the Division II Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 14.1.2.4.)~~

~~21.6.5.3 Terms. Committee members shall be appointed to one four-year term. A member's term of service shall commence on the first day of January following the member's appointment. A member may be appointed to one additional term. An individual who has served two terms may not be reappointed. The term of service of the member serving on the Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall run concurrently with their service on that committee.~~

~~21.6.5.4 Appeals. The committee determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by any other authority.~~

### **Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-4 (eligibility -- freshman academic requirements -- elimination of standardized test-score requirements SAT or ACT), which removed standardized test scores from the Division II initial-eligibility standards, the remaining duties of the NCAA Student Records Review Committee (SRRC) related to identifying academic programs and reviewing academic credential validity, align with existing duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee (HSRC) related to reviewing programs and revised transcripts. Eliminating the SRRC and placing their duties related to the validity of academic credentials under the HSRC will streamline oversight and avoid redundancy.

### **Review History:**

Jun 5, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** RECRUITING -- CONTACTS AND EVALUATIONS -- CONTACTABLE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES -- FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES -- REMOVAL OF NOTIFICATION OF RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENT

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** June 29, 2023

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-14

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Recruiting

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that a Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send written notification of recruitment to an NAIA institution prior to having contact with an NAIA student-athlete.

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.1.1.2, as follows:

13.1.1.2 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall not communicate or make contact with the student-athlete of an NCAA Division II institution, 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. Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete of an NCAA Division I or Division III institution, an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's interest shall comply with the rule of the applicable division for making contact with a student-athlete. ~~Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete at an NAIA institution, the Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send notification of recruitment to the NAIA institution.~~ [D]

[13.1.1.2.1 through 13.1.1.2.5 unchanged.]

## Additional Information:

Current legislation requires that a Division II institution's director of athletics, or their designee, provide an NAIA institution with written notification of recruitment prior to contacting a prospective student-athlete at an NAIA institution. Further, prior to having contact with a student-athlete from an NCAA institution, NAIA legislation required that the student-athlete needed to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal. However, due to a recent change in the NAIA's legislation, a student-athlete from an NCAA institution no longer has to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal in order for an NAIA institution to have contact. Eliminating the written notification of recruitment requirement will ease the burden on compliance administrators.

## Review History:

Jun 29, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE -- ELIMINATION OF OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** July 24, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-15

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Committees

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

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.4 unchanged.]

~~21.2.5 Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.~~

~~21.2.5.1 Composition: The Olympic Sports Liaison Committee shall consist of 14 members, including at least one from each division. 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.~~

~~21.2.5.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation: The Division II student-athlete member of the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee shall also be a member of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.~~

~~21.2.5.2 Duties: The committee shall:~~

~~(a) Act as a liaison between the Association, the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee and national governing bodies; and~~

~~(b) Study and make recommendations concerning the Association's appropriate role in the involvement of student-athletes in international athletics.~~

[21.2.6 through 21.2.8 renumbered as 21.2.5 through 21.2.7, unchanged.]

## Additional Information:

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The continued review has resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee, as its duties overlap with a partnership between the NCAA and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC). Further, the committee's legislated duties and charge have been completed. This proposal is being recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

## Review History:

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

Apr 25, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Board of Governors.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- ACADEMIC SUCCESS RATE AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE CENSUS -- FAILURE TO SUBMIT AND FINAL AUTHORITY

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** July 24, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-16

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership and Institutional Control.

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

**Intent:** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to specify that the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall have the final authority over waivers submitted by Division II institutions that fail to submit their ASR and APC data by the deadlines.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows:

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.11 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.12 Academic Success Rate. Active members shall annually submit data, by the applicable deadline, for the Academic Success Rate in a form prescribed by the Management Council.

7.3.1.5.12.1 Failure to Submit Data. An active member institution that fails to submit data for the Academic Success Rate by the applicable deadline shall forfeit receipt of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~in the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**. Further, an active member institution that fails to submit data for the Academic Success Rate in any two years during a five-year period shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following three consecutive academic years~~**with the next three distributions**.

7.3.1.5.12.1.1 Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may grant waivers of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.12.1 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. ~~The Management Council Subcommittee [see Bylaw 8.2.2.3] shall hear and act on an institution's appeal of a decision made by the Academic Requirements Committee~~**The decision of the Academic Requirements Committee shall be considered final.**

7.3.1.5.13 Academic Performance Census -- Failure to Submit. If an institution fails to submit its Academic Performance Census by the applicable deadline, in a format approved and administered by the Presidents Council (or a committee designated by the Presidents Council), that institution shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

7.3.1.5.13.1 Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may grant waivers of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.13 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. ~~The Management Council Subcommittee [see Bylaw 8.2.2.3] shall hear and act on an institution's appeal of a decision made by the Academic Requirements Committee~~**The decision of the Academic Requirements Committee shall be considered final.**

[7.3.1.5.14 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]



## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

### Additional Information:

Under current legislation, the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data occurs during the following academic year. However, new systems have been implemented that streamlined the process to take place without delay. As a result, in practice, if an institution fails to submit the data, the withholding penalty occurs with the next distribution of Equal Distribution Funds. Therefore, changing the legislated timing of the withholding penalty for failure to submit ASR and APC data will align with current practice. Additionally, current legislation provides a waiver opportunity for institutions that fail to submit ASR and APC data. If the Division II Academic Requirements Committee denies the waiver, current legislation gives the Division II Management Council Subcommittee the authority to hear and act on an institution's appeal of the committee's decision. Granting the Academic Requirements Committee final authority over such waiver decisions places the decision making in the hands of subject matter experts. Further, such waiver decisions have not traditionally been appealed to the Management Council Subcommittee.

### Review History:

Jun 5, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** AMATEURISM -- USE OF LOGOS ON EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND APPAREL -- INCORPORATING INTO PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS LEGISLATION

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** July 24, 2023

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-17

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Amateurism

**Status:** Ready for Ratification Convention Vote

**Intent:** To move the use of logos on equipment, uniforms and apparel legislation into the playing and practice seasons legislation.

**Bylaws:** Amend 12.5, as follows:

~~12.5~~**17.51.10** Use of Logos on Equipment, Uniforms and Apparel. A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the applicable sports playing rules are satisfied and the following criteria are met. [D]

[17.1.10-(a) through 17.1.10-(b) unchanged.]

~~12.5~~**17.51.10.1** Laundry Label. If an institution's uniform or any item of apparel worn by a student-athlete in competition contains washing instructions on the outside of the apparel on a patch that also includes the manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark, the entire patch must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram) that does not exceed 2 1/4 square inches. [D]

~~12.5~~**17.51.210.2** Pre- or Postgame Activities. The restriction on the size of a manufacturer's or distributor's logo is applicable to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of the institution's competition, which includes any pre- or postgame activities (e.g., postgame celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences) involving student-athletes. [D]

~~12.5~~**17.51.310.3** Outside Team Uniforms and Apparel. The provisions of Bylaw ~~12.5~~**17.1.10**-(b) do not apply to the official uniforms and apparel worn by outside teams.

~~12.5~~**17.51.410.4** Title Sponsor Recognition. Racing bibs and similar competition identification materials (e.g., bowl-game patches) worn by participants may include the name of the corporate sponsor of the competition, provided the involved commercial company is the sole title sponsor of the competition. [D]

## Additional Information:

As part of the work of the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, the Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee of the Implementation Committee determined that the location of Bylaw 12.5 was no longer the appropriate bylaw to house the legislation. Upon review, the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee determined that eliminating Bylaw 12.5 would diminish the importance of the restrictions surrounding manufacturing logos. Therefore, keeping Bylaw 12.5 in the Division II Manual and incorporating it into Bylaw 17 will maintain the importance of the restrictions surrounding manufacturing logos, while placing it in a more appropriate location within the Division II Manual as the restrictions in Bylaw 12.5 better align with the regulations set forth in Bylaw 17.

## Review History:

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

Jun 29, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Aug 30, 2023: Approved in Legislative Format - NCAA Division II Administrative Committee.

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# 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Title:** NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY AND FINANCIAL DATA REQUIREMENT -- FAILURE TO SUBMIT AND WAIVER OPPORTUNITY

**Convention Year:** 2024

**Date Submitted:** July 24, 2023

**Effective Date:**

Section A: Immediate

Section B: August 1, 2025

**Proposal Number:** NC-2024-18

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership and Institutional Control.

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

**Intent:** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to establish a waiver opportunity for an institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data by the deadline.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows: *(Immediate)*

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.18 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.19 Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey. An active member institution shall complete a student-athlete health and safety survey on an annual basis pursuant to policies and procedures as determined by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport.

7.3.1.5.19.1 Failure to Submit Survey. An institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey by the applicable deadline shall forfeit receipt of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds *in the following academic year* **with the next distribution**.

**7.3.1.5.19.1.1 Waiver. The Membership Committee may waive the requirement of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.19.1 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The decision of the Membership Committee shall be considered final.**

[7.3.1.5.20 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows: *(August 1, 2025)*

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.23 Financial Data Requirement -- Failure to Submit. An active member institution that fails to submit its financial data per NCAA Article 2-D-1-c by the applicable deadline, in a format approved and administered by the Membership Committee, shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds *for the following academic year* **with the next distribution**.

**7.3.1.5.23.1 Waiver. The Membership Committee may waive the requirement of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.23 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The decision of the Membership Committee shall be considered final.**

## 2024 Noncontroversial Proposals

### Additional Information:

Under current legislation, the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data occurs during the following academic year. However, new systems have been implemented that streamlined the penalty process to take place without delay. As a result, in practice, if an institution fails to submit the data, the withholding penalty occurs with the next distribution of Division II Equal Distribution Funds. Therefore, changing the legislated timing of the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will align with current practice. Additionally, current legislation does not provide a waiver opportunity for institutions that fail to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data. Establishing a waiver opportunity will provide institutions with greater opportunities for relief. Further, it will allow the Membership Committee to have final authority over waiver decisions, ensuring that decision making remains in the hands of subject matter experts.

### Review History:

Jul 12, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Membership Committee.

Jul 18, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

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REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

**a. 2025 NCAA Convention Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.4.3.3 -- Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year -- Elimination of the 18-Semester/27-Quarter Hours.**

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2025 NCAA Convention to eliminate Bylaw 14.4.3.3 (credit hours earned during the regular academic year).
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025, for certifications of progress-toward-degree requirements for fall 2025 and thereafter.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, progress-toward-degree rules require a student-athlete to earn at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during each full-time term of attendance, at least 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year and at least 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit annually. Based on a review of the 2022 Academic Performance Census (APC) data, 96% of student-athletes from semester schools who satisfied the term-by-term requirement in their spring semester also satisfied the 18-semester hour requirement. Further, 98% of student-athletes from quarter schools who satisfied the term-by-term requirement in their spring quarter also satisfied the 27-quarter hour requirement. Eliminating the legislation will simplify the certification process without jeopardizing the overall academic success of a student-athlete since they would still be required to meet the term-by-term, annual credit-hour and grade-point average (GPA) requirements. Finally, this change will ease the burden on compliance administrators, as well as student-athletes.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Estimated student-athlete impact. None.

**b. 2025 Convention Legislation -- Bylaw 14.5.4.3 -- Eligibility -- Transfer Regulations -- Two-Year College Transfers -- Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers -- Removal of English, Math and Science Requirement for Qualifiers.**

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2025 Convention to eliminate

the requirement that a qualifier, who is a two-year college transfer, must earn transferrable credit hours in English, math and science.

- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, two-year college transfers that do not graduate from the two-year college or who are not a final qualifier with one term of attendance at the two-year college, are required to satisfactorily complete and transfer in at least six-semester or eight-quarter hours of English, three-semester or four-quarter hours of math and three-semester or four-quarter hours of natural or physical science as part of the two-year college transfer requirements. The NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee believes that a two-year college transfer student who is a qualifier, has already displayed their academic readiness through completion of core courses while enrolled in high school, therefore, eliminating the requirement would simplify transfer certification for qualifiers. Qualifiers would still need to satisfy the remaining two-year college transfer requirements (e.g., an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit each full-time term, 2.20 transferable GPA) outlined in Bylaw 14.5.4.3.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Estimated student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaws 14.3.1.3 and 14.3.1.3.2 -- Eligibility -- Freshman Academic Requirements -- Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers -- Core-Curriculum Requirements and Nontraditional Courses -- Modernization of Core-Course Requirements.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to modernize core-course requirements to encompass all delivery models; further, to eliminate the legislative distinction for nontraditional courses.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024, for high school account, program or course reviews that occur on or after August 1, 2024.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation prescribes separate and distinct definitions for core-curriculum requirements and nontraditional courses. In recent years, there have been an increasing number of delivery methods that are utilized in offering core-curriculum courses. Accordingly, modernized core-course requirements create a streamlined set of rules that are more broadly applicable to any delivery method but still provide guardrails for learning

environments that are more conducive to fraud or abuse. The intent to ensure initial-eligibility certifications include only courses that academically prepare prospective student-athletes for four-year college academic work would remain paramount and is not impacted by the definition change. Rather, the change prevents the definitions from becoming quickly outdated due to ever-evolving delivery methods.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Estimated student-athlete impact. None.

**d. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 14.4.3.2.1 -- Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Term-by-Term Credit-Hour Requirement -- Application of Rule to Transfer Student -- Transferable Requirement.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the requirement that the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours must be transferrable degree credit; further, to specify that the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours shall be earned (rather than transferable) during the student-athlete's last full-time term of attendance.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2024.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation requires that transfer students must complete at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of transferable degree credit during their last full-time term. The Academic Requirements Committee noted that it is difficult for student-athletes to know which courses will transfer to their next institution when registering for the term prior to transferring. This proposal would still require transfer students to earn nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of degree credit during their last full-time term. However, this change would simplify transfer certifications by permitting the certifying institution to certify the term-by-term credit-hour requirement for a transfer student based on a review of the previous institution's transcript rather than an in-depth analysis of transferable coursework accepted by the certifying institution.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Estimated student-athlete impact. None.



e. **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 14.5.4.1.1 -- Transfer Regulations -- Two-Year College Transfers -- Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Graduation from Two-Year College -- Application -- Academic Degree Requirement.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 14.5.4.1.1 (eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- graduation from two-year college) to clarify that a student-athlete that previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student prior to attendance at a two-year college, shall utilize any academic degree from any two-year college(s) attended.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2024.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation specifies that if a two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student, then only an academic degree earned at the two-year college(s) after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year institution shall be considered for purposes of meeting Bylaw 14.5.4.1 (eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- graduation from two-year college) (e.g., 2-4-2-4). Being that the primary purpose of two-year college transfer requirements is to assess the academic readiness of a student-athlete for education at a four-year institution, student-athletes that have graduated from a two-year college have already displayed such academic preparation. Further, based on membership feedback, 82% of respondents supported this change, stating that the current rule is restricting access for student-athletes that have demonstrated their academic readiness. Finally, this proposal does not change the current requirement that a student-athlete must earn nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of transferable degree credit during their last full-time term of enrollment.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Estimated student-athlete impact. None.

2. **Nonlegislative Items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Discussion on Division II Bylaw 14 progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfer requirements.** The Academic Requirements Committee continued its review

regarding the current application of the progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfer requirements. Specifically, the committee reviewed the feedback received from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators , NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Faculty Athletics Representatives Association that was initially presented during the June 5, 2023, videoconference, along with updated APC data. As a result, the committee recommended legislative changes to certain progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfer requirements. [See Legislative Action Item Nos. 1a, 1b, 1d and 1e.]

Finally, the committee discussed additional pain points (i.e., calculating the transferable GPA, self-applied one-time waiver for student-athletes that do not satisfy progress-toward-degree requirements). The committee agreed to continue the discussion during its February 20, 2024, in-person meeting.

2. **Editorial revision regarding Bylaw 14.3.2.1 (participation before certification -- recruited and nonrecruited student-athlete).** During its September 20, 2022, in-person meeting, the committee discussed the elimination of Bylaw 14.5.4.5.7 (participation before certification -- recruited and nonrecruited student-athlete) due to the elimination of the nonqualifier initial-eligibility status. NCAA staff noted that Bylaw 14.3.2.1 should have been eliminated in 2021 as a result of the change in initial-eligibility legislation, as there is no longer a restriction on access to athletics aid and practice for any incoming prospective student-athlete regardless of final academic certification. As a result, the legislation will be removed through an editorial revision.
3. **Discussion regarding the modernization of core-course legislation.** The committee reviewed the definition of nontraditional courses regarding initial-eligibility certifications. Specifically, Bylaw 14.3.1.3.2 has become outdated as a distinct rule from the definition of a core course due to the increase in delivery methods since the COVID-19 pandemic. Following input from stakeholders (including the Academic Requirements Committee), the High School Review Committee sought to consolidate key elements from the core-course requirements and nontraditional course definitions into a singular definition for all delivery methods. The Academic Requirements Committee recommended the change to streamline the legislation to be more broadly applicable to any delivery method while maintaining guardrails for learning environments that are more conducive to fraud or abuse. [See Legislative Action Item No. 1c.]
4. **Update on 2024 Convention Division II proposals.** The Academic Requirement Committee reviewed the five legislative proposals that will be voted on by the Division II membership at the 2024 Convention.
5. **Update on Academic Success Rate (ASR) data submissions.** Staff provided an update on seven institutions that successfully requested an extension of the ASR deadline for the 2022-23 academic year.
6. **Update on APC submissions.** Staff provided an update on APC data submissions.

7. **Update on initial-eligibility certification data for the 2023-24 academic year.** The committee received an update on current data related to initial-eligibility certifications.
8. **Review of the Academic Requirements Committee policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved updates to its policies and procedures.
9. **Update on Division II educational initiatives.** Staff provided an update on the 2023-24 educational initiatives. Specifically, it was noted that the NCAA Regional Rules Seminar will take place June 12-14, 2024, in Las Vegas.
10. **Review of the 2023-24 Division II Priorities.** Staff provided an update on the Division II priorities for the upcoming year.
11. **Update of the work of the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors most recent meeting.
12. **Review of the NCAA Division II Presidents Council and Division II Management Council summer 2023 summary of actions.** Staff provided an update on the summary of actions from the Presidents Council and Management Council summer 2023 meetings.
13. **Update on the Division II 50th anniversary celebration.** The committee received an update regarding the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Division II for the 2023-24 academic year.
14. **Review of the June 5, 2023, Academic Requirements Committee videoconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its June 5, 2023, videoconference.
15. **Review of the Academic Requirements Committee roster.** The committee reviewed the current roster and subcommittee appointments for accuracy.
16. **Future scheduled meetings/videoconferences.**
  - a. February 20, 2024; in-person meeting, Indianapolis.
  - b. June 2024; videoconference, to be determined.
  - c. September 2024; videoconference, to be determined.

*Committee Chair:*  
*Staff Liaisons:*

*Karen Hjerpe, Pennsylvania Western University, California*  
*Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*Robert Turick, Research*

NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee September 19, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.	
Karen Hjerpe, Pennsylvania Western University, California.	
Jason Jones, Catawba College.	
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.	
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University.	
Danny McCabe, Adelphi University.	
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.	
Madison Peterson, Augustana University.	
Krista Plummer, Northwood University.	
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Carrie Micheals, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels and Robert Turick.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Doug Healey, Kendee Hilliard, Chelsea Hooks, Anna Lynn Houk, Maritza Jones, Becca Burchette Medel, Sarah Overpeck, Angela Red, Jenny Collins Taylor and Drea Rog.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 3, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Neutrality in championships preliminary rounds for team sports.**

- a. Recommendation. Approve a policy that permits preliminary round hosts in all team sports to run the same kind of pregame promotions and celebrations they conduct during the regular-season contests before resuming neutrality during the course of the contest. [Attachment].
- b. Effective date. Immediate.
- c. Rationale. The neutrality pilot was first approved in 2019 to permit preliminary-round hosts of the 2019-20 Division II Football Championship, Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, and Division II Softball Championship to run the same kind of pregame promotions and celebrations they conduct during their regular-season contests before resuming neutrality at the start of the contest and through its conclusion. The cancellation of championships in 2020 and reduction of bracket sizes and restrictions on preliminary-round sites in 2021 compromised the policy's use and subsequent evaluation. At its June 2021 meeting, the Division II Championships Committee approved extending the pilot to allow it to be implemented as championships returned to their normal operations and thus produce more meaningful data. Then in June 2022 the Championships Committee agreed to extend the neutrality pilot for an additional year and expand the pilot to include all team sports. Feedback over time from sport committees and member institutions that have operated under the policy has been favorable enough for the Championships Committee to feel comfortable recommending that it be adopted as permanent policy for all team sports.
- d. Estimated budget impact. None.
- e. Student-athlete impact. The neutrality pilot has proven to have enhanced the competitive atmosphere and has garnered positive feedback from student-athletes (both home and away) who have experienced it.

[[Note: The action item noted above was approved August 30 by the Administrative Committee. They are included in the document for ease of reference.]

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Reid Amos welcomed the group and previewed key agenda items.

2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its June 26-27, 2023, in-person meeting as presented.
3. **Triennial budget update.** The committee revisited all of the requests for the 2024-27 budget cycle in preparation to submit final recommendations coming out of the committee's September in-person meeting. The committee reviewed breakout group discussions conducted previously and focused its attention on requests that had either unanimous or majority support from those groups. The committee then discussed items that had received a mixed reaction previously to determine whether any change in support was warranted. Ultimately the committee reached a consensus on a number of items and agreed to discuss at least two others in more detail but noted that any outstanding item could be revisited in September if something would have changed between now and then to warrant such review. Once the committee finalizes its recommendations in September, the Division II Planning and Finance Committee will review the recommendations in the fall and the Division II Management Council and Presidents Council will formally consider them during their meetings in January.
4. **Neutrality pilot.** The committee reviewed the overwhelmingly positive feedback from sport committees that have been involved with the neutrality pilot and agreed to recommend that it become permanent policy beginning this coming year. (See Nonlegislative Action Item.)
5. **First ranking as under consideration.** The committee reviewed feedback from sport committees on publishing the first of their three rankings as an alphabetical list of teams under consideration rather than as an actual ranking. The option of posting rankings as "under consideration" lists was implemented during the pandemic to provide sport committees more flexibility to manage compromised playing schedules, but the Championships Committee subsequently heard interest from sport committees on being able to continue this practice. Given the positive feedback received, the Championships Committee agreed to retain the policy going forward, noting that it would be reviewed annually. (The committee emphasized the importance of continuing to conduct the first ranking as actual even though it is published alphabetically, as each ranking process builds preparation for the final selection. The second and third rankings would continue as they currently are to be published as actual ranking.)
6. **Recognition of outgoing committee members.** The committee formally thanked outgoing member Matt Kilcullen for his outstanding contributions during his term, including his service representing the committee on the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. The committee also once again acknowledged Reid Amos' contributions as chair since this is the final meeting he will oversee in that role (his term on the committee expires at the end of August). Nathan Gibson will assume the role of chair at the committee's next meeting in September.
7. **Future meetings and videoconferences.**
  - September 14-15, 2023 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

Committee Chair:	Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference
Staff Liaison(s):	Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances
	Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances
	Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee August 3, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference.	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University (Management Council vice chair).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
<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 Gronau, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Julia Longo and Angela Red.	



**Division II Preliminary Round Neutrality  
Policy  
Do's and Don'ts Document**

At its August 2023 meeting, the NCAA Division II Championships Committee approved a policy to permit preliminary rounds of all Division II Championships to run the same kind of pregame promotions and celebrations they conduct during their regular-season contests before resuming neutrality at the start of the contest and through its conclusion.

Outlined below are the do's and don'ts of the policy as they pertain to pre-game promotions in preliminary rounds. (Note: Nothing regarding the in-game neutrality policy changes. Remember, once the contest starts, if you plan a promotion for one team, it must be done for both.)

**PERMISSIBLE:**

- Hosts are allowed to incorporate typical **pre-game** promotions before being neutral in-game.
  - Hype/intro video.
    - The only permissible video content outside of hype/intro videos is provided by the NCAA.
  - Running through tunnel.
  - Announcer/introduction/starting lineups.
    - The NCAA script provided for each site should be followed.
  - Pyro/smoke/fog/cannons during team introductions.
  - Crowd live shots.
  - Lights out with spotlights during player introductions.

**IMPERMISSIBLE:**

- No "toss" of t-shirts, premium items, etc.
- Hype for third-downs, sacks, turnovers, home runs, 3-pointers, strikeouts, etc. through video board or PA announcer.
- Nothing in-game related to video that's only geared towards the host team.
- Crowd teasers on videoboard that incite crowd involvement.
- Walk-up music for only the host team. Can be used only if provided for both teams.
- Promotions sponsored by corporate partners.
- Recognitions specific to the host institution or sponsors.
- Pyro/smoke/fog/cannons for only the host team after the start of the contest.

Final determination on any activations not listed above will be at the discretion of the NCAA championship manager and the site representative.





REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 11, 2023, ELECTRONIC VOTE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **Sport committee appointments.** The committee approved the following sport committee appointments, effective as noted (see Attachment).

(1) **Men's and women's cross country (immediate appointment).** Mike Rosolino, head coach at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, replacing Darlene Moore, assistant director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Albany State University (Georgia), who resigned from the committee.

(2) **Women's basketball (two September 1, 2023, appointments).** Amy Anderson, director of student-athlete success and senior woman administrator at Arkansas Tech University, replacing Katie Webb, assistant director of athletics at Southeastern Oklahoma State University; and Stephanie Yelton, head coach at the University of West Florida, replacing Jessica Carmack, assistant director of athletics, head coach and senior woman administrator at Christian Brothers University, both due to the previously selected individuals declining their appointments.

(3) **Women's lacrosse (immediate appointment).** Melissa Gyllenborg, head coach at Maryville University of Saint Louis, replacing Shannon McHale, head coach at Colorado Mesa University, who resigned from the committee.

(4) **Men's and women's tennis (immediate appointment).** Joey Eskridge, director of tennis at Anderson University (South Carolina), replacing Kelley Kish, director of athletics at Wingate University, who declined the appointment. (Ms. Kish had been selected to replace Lee Underwood, director of athletics at Barton College, due to term expiration but subsequently left the institution.)

Committee Chair:	Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference
Staff Liaison(s):	Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances
	Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances
	Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee August 11, 2023, Electronic Vote	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference.	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Santee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<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>	
Leslie Havens.	

## 2023-24 DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE

**Composition:** Eight members, including four representing men's track and four representing women's track. Three positions are allocated for men, three for women. Quota of 50 percent administrators: **4**

One from each region: West, Central, South Central, Midwest, South, Southeast, Atlantic, East.

**Vacancies:** **One September 2024 vacancy, Southeast region. Coach or admin. One immediate vacancy, Darlene Moore resigned, South region**

**Staff Liaison:** Ashley Caldwell

	REG.	POS.	EM/ GEN	NAME AND INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
(M/W)	West	AD	N/F	Randi Lydum Western Oregon University	Great Northwest Athletic	Lydum	Lydum	Lydum	Lydum*
<b>(M/W)</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>Asst AD/SWA</b>	<b>Y/F</b>	<b>Darlene Moore Albany State University (Georgia)</b>	<b>Southern Intercollegiate</b>	<b>Moore</b>	<b>Moore*</b>		
(M/W)	SoC	AD	N/F	Katelyn Smith Adams State University	Rocky Mountain Athletic	Smith	Smith	Smith	Smith*
<b>(M/W)</b>	<b>SoE</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N/M</b>	<b>Jason Bryan Catawba College</b>	<b>South Atlantic</b>	<b>Bryan*</b>			
(M/W)	East	Asst AD/C	N/M	Zach Emerson Franklin Pierce University	Northeast-10	Emerson	Emerson	Emerson	Emerson*
(M/W)	Cen	Asst AD/SWA	N/F	Sage Woodham Southern Arkansas University	Great American Conference	Woodham	Woodham*		
(M/W)	MidW	Asst AD/SWA	N/F	Elizabeth Hoge Ashland University	Great Midwest Athletic	Hoge	Hoge	Hoge*	
(M&W)	Atl	Asst. AD	N/M	Andy Huber West Chester University of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania State Athletic	Huber	Huber	Huber*	

\* Not eligible for reappointment

07/06/2023

## 2023-24 DIVISION II WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

Composition: Eight members. One representative from each of the women's basketball regions (West, Central, South Central, Midwest, South, Southeast, Atlantic, East). Quota of 50 percent administrators: 4.

Vacancies: **Two September 2023 vacancies. Webb and Carmack declined. Admins or coaches from Central and South Regions.**  
**Two September 2024 vacancies: Coaches from West and South Central Regions.**

Staff Liaison: Karen Kirsch

REG	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME, INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
SoE	Dep AD	N/Y	Randy Loggins Converse University	Conference Carolinas	Loggins	Loggins	Loggins*	
East	Asst AD/C	N/F	Jenepher Banker Daemen University	East Coast	Banker	Banker	Banker	Banker*
Atl	Sr. Assoc Com/SWA	N/F	Allie DeWitt Mountain East Conference	Mountain East	DeWitt	DeWitt	DeWitt	DeWitt*
<b>Cen</b>	<b>Asst. AD</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Katie Webb Southeastern Oklahoma State University</b>	<b>Great American</b>	<b>Webb</b>	<b>Webb</b>	<b>Webb</b>	<b>Webb*</b>
MidW	AD	N/F	Erika Wallace Wayne State University	Great Lakes Intercollegiate	Wallace	Wallace	Wallace*	
<b>West</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Danelle Bishop California State Polytechnic University</b>	<b>California Collegiate Athletic</b>	<b>Bishop*</b>			
<b>So</b>	<b>Asst. AD/ SWA/C</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Jessica Carmack Christian Brothers University</b>	<b>Gulf South</b>	<b>Carmack</b>	<b>Carmack</b>	<b>Carmack</b>	<b>Carmack*</b>
<b>SoC</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N/M</b>	<b>Joshua Prock West Texas A&amp;M University</b>	<b>Lone Star</b>	<b>Prock*</b>			

\*Not eligible for reappointment 06/18/2023

## 2023-24 DIVISION II WOMEN'S LACROSSE COMMITTEE

(Division II Championships Administration Only)

Composition: Four members, two from each region – South, Atlantic, Midwest and East. 50% Administrators (2).

Vacancies: **No September 2024 vacancies. One immediate vacancy, Shannon McHale resigned, Midwest region, coach or admin.**

Staff Liaison: Ryan Rea

REG	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME AND INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
ATL	Assoc Comm	N/M	Doug DeBiase Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference	Central Atlantic Collegiate	DeBiase	DeBiase*		
<b>MIDW</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Shannon McHale Colorado Mesa University</b>	<b>Rocky Mountain Athletic</b>	<b>McHale</b>	<b>McHale</b>	<b>McHale*</b>	
EAST	Asst. AD/C	N/F	Dawn Sachs Mercy College	East Coast	Sachs	Sachs	Sachs*	
South	AD	N/F	Jennifer Rushton Young Harris College	Peach Belt	Rushton	Rushton	Rushton*	

\*Not eligible for reappointment  
07/11/2023

**Atlantic** – Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference and Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference

**East** – East Coast Conference and Northeast-10 Conference

**Midwest** – Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Mountain East Conference, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and Independent Institutions (Alderson Broaddus University, Davis and Elkins College, Ohio Valley University, Ursuline College, Concordia University, St. Paul)

**South** – Conference Carolinas, South Atlantic Conference, Sunshine State Conference and Independent Institutions (University of Alabama, Huntsville, University of Montevallo, Shorter University, Young Harris College, Florida Institute of Technology)

## 2023-24 DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEE

**Composition:** Eight members. Three positions will be allocated for men, three positions allocated for women and two positions unallocated. Quota of 50 percent administrators: **4**.

One from each of the tennis regions: West, Central, South Central, South, Southeast, Midwest, Atlantic, East.

**Vacancies:** **One September 2023 vacancy, Southeast Regions, coach or admin – Kelley Kish no longer at institution - declined.**

**Staff Liaison:** Zach Christopher

REG	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME, INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
<b>SoE</b>	<b>C (AD)</b>	<b>N/M (N/F)</b>	<b>Lee Underwood Barton College (Kelley Kish Wingate University)</b>	<b>Conference Carolinas (South Atlantic)</b>	<b>Underwood*</b>	<b>Kish</b>	<b>Kish</b>	<b>Kish (9/27)*</b>
Cen	Dep AD	N/M	Troy Katen Arkansas Tech University pending	Great American	Katen	Katen	Katen*	
MidW	Asst AD	N/F	Karen Henson Drury University	Great Lakes Valley	Henson	Henson	Henson*	
So	Assoc AD	N/F	Christi Wade University of West Alabama	Gulf South	Wade	Wade	Wade	Wade*
West	C	N/M	Hendrik Bode Hawaii Pacific University	Pacific West	Bode	Bode	Bode*	
Atl	Dir of tennis	N/M	Jerome Simon Mercyhurst University	Pennsylvania State Athletic	Simon	Simon*		
SoC	C	N/M	Josh Cobble Cameron University	Lone Star	Cobble	Cobble	Cobble*	
East	AD	N/F	Stefanie Whitby Wilmington University (Delaware)	Central Atlantic Collegiate	Whitby	Whitby	Whitby*	

\*Not eligible for reappointment 07/10/2023



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 11, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **Video streaming pilot review.** The committee received an update on a pilot initiative that is being explored for this academic year to stream all games of the 2023 Division II Football Championship, the 2023 Division II Women's Volleyball Championship, and the 2024 Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, including potential opportunities on two streaming platforms. The Division II Championships Committee enthusiastically supports the pilot and acknowledges that the one-year test run will provide key data for the NCAA as it continues its media rights renegotiations in the coming year. In its discussion, the committee provided feedback on the streaming requirements as they relate to the pilot as well as potential stipends for participating institutions.

*Committee Chair:* Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee August 11, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference.	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	

Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University (Management Council vice chair).
<b>Absentees:</b>
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
<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 Gronau, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Julia Longo, Angela Red and Chris Termini.





REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 14-15, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **Noncontroversial legislation – NCAA Division II Bylaw 21.8.5.2.2. – Championship Committee -- Duties – Replacement of Sport and Rules Committee Members.**

(1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to permit the Division II Championships Committee to replace a member of a Division II sport committee or a Division II representative on an Association-wide playing rules committee when such member is not performing their duties properly.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The authority to replace a Division II sport/rules committee member had traditionally rested with the Division II Management Council, as the council had the final approval authority for all such Division II committee appointments. However, under current legislation the Division II Championships Committee has the final authority over these appointments. Therefore, the Championships Committee believes it should accordingly be granted the authority to replace members in cases where they are not performing their duties properly. The Championships Committee regards this recommendation more as policy housekeeping rather than infringing upon the Management Council's oversight and as such believes the noncontroversial legislation path is appropriate.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Triennial budget recommendations.

(1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Planning and Finance Committee recommend the NCAA Division II Presidents Council approve the attached requests for the triennial budget cycle beginning in fiscal year 2024-25. (See Attachment A.)

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2024.

(3) Rationale. The Division II Presidents Council and the Division II Planning and Finance Committee allocated \$1.5 million to the base budget for championships enhancements for the triennial cycle beginning in fiscal year 2024-25. The

Championships Committee discussed all requests from sport committees, which totaled more than \$3 million, and prioritized them accordingly, collaborating with sport committees throughout the process to ensure all stakeholders were aware of the conditions and constraints.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$1,290,791, leaving \$209,209 in reserve for future championships initiatives.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. All of the recommendations, in one way or another, directly enhance the student-athlete experience at Division II championships, either by increasing participation opportunities or improving championship administration.

**b. Softball championship date formula.**

- (1) Recommendation. Move the Division II Softball Championship finals to the week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday), resulting in the following date formula:
  - Selection Announcement: Monday prior to regionals.
  - Regionals (16 sites): One week before the super regionals (Thursday-Saturday).
  - Super Regionals (8 sites): One week before the finals (Thursday-Friday).
  - Finals: The week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday).
- (2) Effective date. For the 2026 playing and practice season (spring 2026 championship). (The delayed effective date aligns with the two-year lead time requirement for changes to a sport championship's date formula.)
- (3) Rationale. Currently, the Division II softball selection date is one week earlier than their counterparts in both Divisions I and III. This results in Division II student-athletes playing at least one week of their regular season without the benefit of playing in the same weather conditions as the rest of NCAA softball, which are generally better in May. Aligning the Division II Softball Championship date formula with Divisions I and III would mitigate concerns regarding poor playing conditions due to inclement weather earlier in the season and provide consistency within the sport. This policy would be permissive, meaning that conferences can align their regular-season schedule in a manner with which their membership agrees, continuing to complete conference championships when they do currently, or using the additional week that would be gained with selections being moved a week later.

A National Fastpitch Coaches Association survey of Division II head coaches revealed that of the 138 of the 245 head coaches responding, 79% supported aligning the Division II championship dates with Divisions I and III softball.

Also, Chattanooga Sports, which has been awarded the bid for the 2026 Division II Softball Championship, has confirmed their ability to accommodate hosting in the instance the championship was moved one week later.

The Championships Committee noted that this proposal, if approved, would eliminate softball from future Division II National Championship Festivals (softball would be part of this coming festival in spring 2024; the next spring championships festival is in 2028). While the Championships Committee expressed some reservations about this outcome, members agreed to support the sport committee, which has vetted the proposal at length and is fully aware of the impact on future festivals.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None for the championship budget; however, there is the potential for increased costs to participating institutions due to student-athletes being on campus during a vacation period and participating an additional week during the regular season.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The adjustment to the date formula has the potential to reduce missed class time due to rescheduled contests and have a positive impact both physically and emotionally on student-athletes to begin the postseason after most classes have ended.

**c. Regional sites for the 2025 and 2026 Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following sites to host regional competition for the 2025 and 2026 Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships. (Note: The Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees are working with NCAA staff to secure enough bids to make recommendations for the remaining regions/years later this fall.)

Men's Golf			
Year	Region	Site/Venue	Host Institution
2025	Central/Midwest	St. Joseph Country Club	Missouri Western State University
2026	Central/Midwest	Katke Golf Course	Ferris State University

Women's Golf			
Year	Region	Site/Venue	Host Institution
2025	Central	Kickingbird Golf Club	University of Central Oklahoma
2025	East	The Meadows Golf Course	Grand Valley State University
2025	South	Chattahoochee Golf Course	University of North Georgia
2025	West	La Paloma Golf Club	West Texas A&M University
2026	Central	St. Joseph Country Club	Missouri Western State University
2026	West	Pueblo Country Club	Colorado State University, Pueblo

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The recommended sites selected from the bids received will provide the best experience for participating teams while balancing proposed budgets, regional geography, and recent hosting experience, among other items.

(4) Estimated budget impact. The proposed budgets are in line with typical expenditures for regional competition.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The recommended sites will ensure a championship-caliber experience for the participating student-athletes.

**d. Substitution provisions in men's and women's golf.**

(1) Recommendation. Allow substitutes during all rounds of the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships (this includes stroke play and match play at the regionals and national finals).

(2) Effective date. 2024 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships.

(3) Rationale. Currently, substitutions are permitted only during the match-play portion of the championship finals. The Division II Championships Committee agrees with the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees that allowing

substitutions in all rounds of the NCAA championships is in the best interests of Division II golf and protects the competitive equity of the championships.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. As this is a permissive policy, participating institutions that choose to bring additional individuals beyond their normal travel roster could incur additional costs. (Institutions currently are reimbursed for five golfers at regionals and the recommended substitution allowance would require a sixth golfer.) Therefore, schools may elect to bring only five student-athletes without an additional budget impact.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Substitutions would allow for additional competitive opportunities for student-athletes.

**e. Access ratios for select sports.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve regional berth allocations for baseball, women's soccer, and men's and women's tennis as specified in Attachment B.
- (2) Effective date. 2023-24 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The sport committees for these sports based their postseason berth allocations on the current year's sport sponsorship as the fairest method and to retain an equitable bracket size among regions.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**f. Misconduct policies.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve modifications to the misconduct policy as follows:
  - (1) more flexibility to apply increased financial penalties without requiring approval from the Championships Committee to do so (up to \$1500), and (2) to authorize the Championships Committee to change a private reprimand to a public reprimand in instances where the membership would benefit from such disclosure. (See Attachment C.)
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Championships Committee began a review of the current misconduct policies, particularly related to fines and reprimands, to address the increase in unwanted behaviors in recent years. These recommendations provide both the sport committees and Championships Committee with additional flexibility to appropriately handle misconduct situations as needed. The amended policies will be included in the Championships Policies and Operating Procedures Manual for membership awareness.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**g. Sports sponsorship review referral.**

(1) Recommendation. That the Division II Membership Committee, the Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee, and the Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee review sports sponsorship requirements in swimming and diving and track and field to consider whether a potential reduction is warranted in the sports sponsorship and championship selection requirements.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The Championships Committee has discussed anecdotal evidence concerning whether institutions are consistently meeting the minimum sport sponsorship requirements for swimming and diving and track and field. The committee asked staff to compile data to determine whether there is an issue and after review of those data agreed that they merit a referral to the Division II Membership Committee, which oversees sports sponsorship requirements, and the two sport committees for further review to consider whether a potential reduction in the sports sponsorship and championship selection requirements is necessary.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Nathan Gibson welcomed the group and introduced new members Karen Haag of The College of Saint Rose and Terry Beattie of West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
2. **2023-24 sport committee assignments.** Committee members reviewed their sport committee liaison assignments for the coming year and filled vacancies as necessary.
3. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved reports from its August 3 and August 11 videoconferences as presented. The committee noted that its recommendation regarding the neutrality pilot becoming policy was approved by the Administrative Committee effective with the 2023-24 academic year.
4. **Division II Nominating Committee report.** The committee approved the following immediate appointments to sport and playing rules committees as recommended by the Nominating Committee. (See Attachment D.)

- a. **NCAA Division II Football Committee** (one immediate vacancy replacing Lonnie Allen). Appointed **Rubin Stevenson**, senior associate director of athletics, Frostburg State University, Mountain East Conference.
- b. **NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Committee** (one immediate vacancy replacing Carrie Bodkins). Appointed **Todd Diuguid**, senior associate director of athletics, University of Charleston (West Virginia), Mountain East Conference.
- c. **NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee** (two immediate vacancies replacing DJ Bevevino and Britney Woodhull-Smith). Appointed **Elle Elder**, assistant director of athletics, director of compliance and senior woman administrator, Mars Hill University, South Atlantic Conference; and **Jessica Siegele**, faculty athletics representative, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Conference Carolinas.
- d. **NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee** (one immediate vacancy replacing Keith Davie). Appointed **Eric Crawford**, associate director of athletics, Georgia Southwestern State University, Peach Belt Conference.

5. **Budget review.**

- a. **Budget-to-actuals.** The committee reviewed championships budget-to-actuals for the 2022-23 fiscal year, noting that not all expenses have been finalized, but it is expected that the division will be within budget for championships overall.
- b. **Triennial budget recommendations.** The committee completed its review of requests for the 2024-27 budget cycle and submitted its final recommendations. The Division II Management Council and Division II Presidents Council will receive the recommendations as information at their fall meetings before the Division II Planning and Finance Committee considers them in December. If approved by the Planning and Finance Committee, the recommendations will be submitted to the Division II Management and Presidents Councils for a final vote at their January meetings during the NCAA Convention. [See Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-a]

6. **Committee updates.**

- a. **Membership Committee.** The committee received an update from the Membership Committee's summer meeting, noting that D'Youville University became an active Division II member as of September 1 after successfully completing the three-year reclassification process from Division III. The Membership Committee also advanced Allen University, Edward Waters University, and Emory & Henry College to Provisional Year Three, and Thomas More University, the University of South Carolina Beaufort, and Westmont College to Provisional Year Two. Additionally, five schools were accepted into Provisional Year One: Jessup University (NAIA), Menlo College (NAIA), Roosevelt University (NAIA), Sul Ross State University (Division III) and Vanguard University (NAIA). The Membership

Committee reviewed the application submitted by Talladega College (NAIA) but did not accept the institution into the membership process.

The Membership Committee also noted that Le Moyne College has made application by the June 1 deadline to reclassify to Division I. Additionally, the committee considered the request from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association to consider an expedited, two-year reclassification process for institutions that meet predetermined benchmarks in the provisional membership process. The committee requested additional information on any waivers of the process previously granted and agreed to continue the discussion during its videoconference later this month.

**b. Playing Rules Oversight Panel.** The committee reviewed reports from the panel's most recent meetings as information.

**c. Implementation Committee.**

**(1) Championships policy updates.** The Championships Committee reviewed its newly and significantly revised Policies and Operating Procedures Manual as a result of the recently completed exercise as recommended by the Implementation Committee to examine the Division II Manual and discern which bylaws should be moved to policy or eliminated. During the review, the following policy areas emerged as needing additional discussion or clarification, and the committee took the actions as specified.

- Committee Policies – Sport Committee Appointments – Authority to Replace Members (formerly Bylaw 21.8.3). This authority had rested with the Division II Management Council since the council was the final approval body for sport committee appointments. Now that the Management Council in July approved allowing the Championships Committee to have the final say in the that process, the Championships Committee is asking that the council adopt noncontroversial legislation granting it the authority to also replace members if needed. [See Legislative Action Item]
- Determination of Sites and Dates – On-Campus Sites. This policy had stated that “preference shall be given to conducting competition on the grounds or in the buildings of educational institutions unless there are compelling reasons ... to conduct the competition in an off-campus facility.” After further review, however, the Championships Committee agreed that the language could be interpreted as being too restrictive and could impede the flexibility necessary to select the best site for competition. Accordingly, the committee approved removing this stipulation from the manual. (The committee noted that the spirit of considering campus sites remains as part of the selection process but does not need to be specifically stated.)
- International Hosting. Given the composition of the Division II membership that includes one member located in Canada, the committee reviewed the following policy regarding international hosting and confirmed it should remain in the manual: “Currently, international institutions are permitted to host only at a site



located in the United States. The Championships Committee will periodically review the eligibility of international member institutions to host NCAA postseason competition. The review is to ensure that the Association and the activities of its members promote the opportunity for equity in competition.”

- Championship Travel Policies – Squad/Travel Party Size. This policy previously specified that the travel party for all sports should be six persons above the squad size, but most Division II team sports are either at or under that maximum. Accordingly, the committee clarified the policy to read: “For all team championships, the travel party shall be no more than six persons above the squad size (with the exception of football).”

After these discussions, the committee approved the manual as amended. Staff will update the policy manual accordingly before posting a final copy in the Championships Committee collaboration zone and on [ncaa.org](http://ncaa.org).

**(2) Regionalization Discussion update.** The committee discussed next steps for discussions regarding regionalization and supported the following schedule:

- September videoconference: The committee convenes to discuss questions for sport committees to consider regarding potential new bracketing approaches, either to set guardrails for the sport committees or questions on which the committee needs sport committee input.
- October videoconference: Staff presents a first draft of the timeline and feedback needed for continued discussion and development.
- November/December videoconferences: Continue discussion during the monthly videoconferences as needed, with a goal of clarifying what will be referred to the sport committees by no later than December. This will ensure that the fall sport committees will be able to discuss these issues at their annual in-person meetings in late January/early February 2024.
- The NCAA’s new media contract is expected to be finalized by spring 2024, which will help guide the committee on additional next steps with an awareness of budget dollars available.
- June 2024 in-person meeting: Review sport committee feedback and continued development of next steps.

**d. Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is asking the Division II Championships Committee and the Division II Legislation Committee to provide feedback on potentially increasing the number of student-athlete representation on those committees. (The SAAC also is asking Division II governance committees currently without SAAC representation whether there should be.) This recommendation originated with the Division II Implementation Committee and was

referred to the Division II Management Council, which agreed that the committees in question should weigh in on the matter. Championships Committee members discussed the request at length and in general supported the recommendation, however, recommended having current SAAC representatives added to the current composition of the committee, as opposed to current or former student-athletes that are non-SAAC representatives. The SAAC will review committee feedback at its November meeting to inform a potential recommendation.

## **7. Sport committee reports.**

### **a. Baseball.**

- **Potential long-term host recommendation.** The Championships Committee reviewed the Division II Baseball Committee's consideration of a potential arrangement in which the City of Cary, North Carolina, would host the Division II Baseball Championship through 2038, which represents an additional 12 years beyond the current agreement. Cary has expressed interest in serving as a long-term host for the Division II Baseball Championship for some time, as the championship has already been held there every year but one since 2006 and city officials believe they have the enhanced infrastructure and staffing necessary to support this longer-term recommendation. The baseball committee supports the idea but asked the Championships Committee for feedback before considering whether to submit a formal recommendation. Championships Committee members discussed the concept and urged the baseball committee to further deliberate before making a recommendation.

### **b. Football.**

- (1) **Potential bracket increase.** The Championships Committee reviewed a request from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association to consider increasing the Division II Football Championship bracket from the current 28 teams to 32, and to change the championship date formula to align with that of the Division I Football Championship (FCS), which would add a 12<sup>th</sup> week to the regular season and adjust the postseason schedule so that the Division II championship game would be played the same weekend as the FCS championship game. Championships Committee members discussed the proposal briefly but agreed to refer the concepts to the Division II Football Committee for further discussion before formally considering any recommendation.
- (2) **Super region alignment.** The Division II Football Committee convened just prior to the Championships Committee meeting to discuss a super regional alignment starting in 2025 when Conference Carolinas begins sponsoring football. The Championships Committee reviewed the potential map the football committee is proposing. The Championships Committee supported the potential alignment and agreed that it should be shared with the Division II Conference Commissioners Association, the Division II Athletics Directors Association, and the Division II football Coaches Connection group before an official recommendation is made.

**c. Men's golf.**

- (1) Regional sites for 2025-26.** The Championships Committee supported the regional sites as specified, noting that the Division II Men's Golf Committee is working with staff to generate adequate bids from which to select sites for the remaining regionals. [See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-c]
- (2) Regional replacement policy modification.** The Championships Committee noted the men's golf committee's recommendation to adjust the replacement policy implemented last year to increase the window from 48 hours to 96 but agreed that the men's golf committee should communicate with the Division II Women's Golf Committee to gauge that group's interest and submit a joint recommendation if there is common support.
- (3) Additional "under consideration" ranking.** The Championships Committee noted the men's golf committee's recommendation to add an under-consideration ranking in the fall given that many institutions conduct a fall season in golf but again urged the committee to communicate with the Division II Women's Golf Committee to determine if that group wants to support this recommendation as well.

**d. Women's golf.**

- **Regional sites for 2025-26.** The Championships Committee supported the regional sites as specified, noting that the Division II Women's Golf Committee is working with staff to generate adequate bids from which to select sites for the remaining regionals. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-c.)

**e. Men's and women's golf.**

- (1) AQ/selections deadline adjustment.** The Championships Committee considered but tabled the recommendation from the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees to modify the deadline by which conferences determine their automatic qualifiers in men's and women's golf to 12 days prior to the date of regional competition, and to modify the selection date for the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships to 10 days prior to the practice date of regional competition, effective with the 2025 championships. The Championships Committee asked the golf committees to supply additional information and obtain feedback from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association before it reconsiders the recommendation.
- (2) Substitutions during regionals.** The Championships Committee approved a recommendation from the golf committees to allow for substitutions during all rounds of the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships. (See Action Item 2-d.)

**f. Men's lacrosse.** The Championships Committee received the report from the lacrosse committee's annual meeting as information.

**g. Women's lacrosse.**

- **2025 and 2026 lacrosse championships update.** Staff updated the committee on developments in the ongoing discussions regarding the proposed joint men's and women's lacrosse championships in 2025 and 2026. After a review of schedule options, it was determined to not be feasible to move forward with a joint championship with all six championships at one site. However, the Divisions II and III Women's Lacrosse Committees have continually expressed concerns about how the arrangements could compromise their student-athletes' experiences. The committees are currently engaging with a member institution that has expressed interest in possibly hosting the Divisions II and III women's championship finals in both 2025 and 2026 and may submit a recommendation accordingly in the coming weeks. In 2025, all three men's lacrosse championship finals and the Division I women's final would be held at Gillette Stadium. Due to other obligations, Gillette Stadium is no longer able to host any of the championships in 2026 so alternate sites will be identified for all three men's lacrosse championships and the Division I women's lacrosse championship.

**h. Softball.**

- **Championship date formula.** The Championships Committee approved the recommendation from the Division II Softball Committee to amend the date formula effective with the 2026 championship. [See Nonlegislative Action Item 2b]

**i. Men's and women's tennis.** The Championships Committee received the report from the tennis committee's annual meeting as information only.

**j. Men's and women's track and field.**

- **Committee chair.** The Championships Committee approved a waiver to allow Joe Wassink to serve as chair of the Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee for a third year (legislatively, chairs are limited to a two-year term). This does not

**k. National Collegiate sport reports.** As it does annually, the committee reviewed reports from National Collegiate sport committees as information only.

**8. Additional discussion items.**

- 2023-24 access ratios.** The committee approved the access ratios for baseball, women's soccer and men's and women's tennis. [See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-e]
- Strategic plans.** The committee reviewed sport committees' strategic plans as information only.
- Bench size limits.** The committee reviewed feedback from select sport committees on the bench size limits, noting that those surveyed believe the current limits are appropriate for their sport.

- d. **Emerging sport process.** The committee received an overview of the emerging sport process given that a few emerging sports are approaching the threshold required to potentially become National Collegiate championship sports.
- e. **Misconduct penalties.** The committee recommended modifications to the current misconduct policies, particularly related to fines and reprimands, to address the increase in unwanted behaviors in recent years. The amended policies will be included in the Championships Policies and Operating Procedures Manual [See Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-f].
- f. **Regional advisory committee and sport committee member confidentiality.** The committee conducted an initial discussion regarding confidentiality in the championships selections process, as there have been recent instances in which members of regional advisory committees (RACs) and/or sport committees have compromised the spirit of confidentiality inherent in selections. Confidentiality is expressly stated in the various championships manuals and communicated regularly with RAC and sport committee members. Committee members noted that the issues arise primarily when selections differ from a RAC's final ranking, which the committee acknowledged can put individuals in a difficult position, particularly if they are challenged by people outside of the selection process.

The Championships Committee discussed a number of potential methods to address the concern, including talking points for RAC chairs, having the Championships Committee sport liaison listen in on the final RAC call, and emphasizing to RAC members on the front end that their rankings are advisory in nature and that sport committees have the discretion to differ from them during final selections. At the very least, the Championships Committee recommended an increased emphasis on confidentiality throughout the season so that the issue remains top of mind with all members. The committee also recommended that a similar conversation be conducted with the Division II Conference Commissioners Association.

*(Note: Staff also noted ongoing discussions in Division III regarding the use of a computer software called Pairwise to aid the selections process that could mitigate the role RACs currently perform. Pairwise is currently used to select the fields of the ice hockey championships. Staff will provide the committee with updates on the Division III review. If there is interest in using the tool in Division II, it could significantly modify the current selections processes.)*

- g. **Sports sponsorship data (swimming and diving and track and field).** The Championships Committee revisited the issue noted during its June meeting regarding whether institutions are consistently meeting the minimum sport sponsorship requirements for swimming and diving and track and field and agreed to refer a review of sports sponsorship requirements in those sports to the Division II Membership Committee and the relevant Division II sport committees. [See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-g]
- h. **Officiating initiatives.** Staff updated the committee on a meeting at the national office attended by national officiating coordinators and secretary-rules editors to review issues.

Staff also noted an online resource called [“Say Yes to Officiating”](#) on [ncaa.org](#) that offers best practices and other tips to enhance officiating. NCAA President Charlie Baker has emphasized that improving the officiating environment is a top priority. Conference commissioners from all three divisions have also established a working group to help address issues and generate improvements.

**9. Staff updates.**

- a. Gender equity update.** The committee received an update on the review conducted by Lewis Rice LLC to assess the NCAA’s progress in implementing the recommendations from the gender equity report issued in 2021. The progress report supports the NCAA’s concerted efforts to implement gender equity principles to enhance student-athletes’ experiences, especially for those participating at NCAA championships across all sports. The report states that “the NCAA has addressed, or is in progress of addressing, nearly all of the Kaplan recommendations.” The report also states after the Lewis Rice team interviewed dozens of individuals: “We repeatedly heard and sensed that the NCAA is committed to creating lasting and dynamic systems to identify, prevent and address gender disparities.” The report also acknowledged the strong leadership from membership committees in ensuring a commitment to gender equity in all championship operations.

Staff noted that in the two years since the initial report was issued the national office has established an effective platform from which to assess its championships operations from an equity perspective and will continue using this model moving forward. (Note: The committee joined the membership webinar conducted from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. regarding the status of gender equity initiatives.)

- b. Nullification update.** Per the recommendation from the Division II Implementation Committee’s Championships Subcommittee regarding nullification, the committee received its annual report from staff to ensure the committee continues supporting the philosophical approach the enforcement staff applies when examining nullification and whether any adjustments need to be made. Staff noted that the number of cases has decreased over the past two years in conjunction with the shift in the philosophy.

**c. Governance.**

- (1) Summary of actions.** The committee reviewed the summary of actions from the Management Council’s July meeting and the Division II Presidents Council’s August meeting as information only.

- (2) 2023-24 Division II priorities.** Staff reviewed with the committee the division’s priorities for the 2023-24 academic year. The document is available online.

- (3) 2024 Convention legislation.** Staff provided an update on the legislative slate for the Convention, noting that the Presidents Council referred the following two membership-sponsored proposals to the committee for review and a position.

- Proposal No. 2024-1: Playing and Practice Seasons – Football – Preseason Practice and First Contest – First Permissible Contest. The proposal seeks to change the first permissible regular-season contest in football from the Thursday preceding September 6 to one week prior to that Thursday. Sponsors contend this would provide institutions the flexibility to schedule and play the maximum allowable 11 contests over a 12-week period, if desired. As a result, institutions would be able to schedule an off/bye week during the season that would benefit student-athlete health and safety. Sponsors also say the proposal would lessen the burden of finding available nonconference opponents and would create added flexibility and financial benefits to include unique opportunities such as sponsored or destination-site contests with opponents outside or within an institution's own conference. (Note: As the proposal relates specifically to football, only those member institutions sponsoring football will vote on it at the Convention.)

Championships Committee position: No position. Committee members were split on the proposal and thus believe taking a “no position” is appropriate to let the membership decide at the Convention in January.

- Proposal No. 2024-2: Playing and Practice Seasons – Softball – Number of Contests – Maximum Limitations – Institutional and Student-Athlete Championship and Non-Championship Contests. The proposal seeks to add flexibility and equity to the softball playing and practice season by adding eight additional contests that must be played during the nonchampionship segment. Currently, softball teams must limit their playing season with outside competition to 56 contests (games and scrimmages). Student-athletes also are allowed to participate in up to three discretionary exemptions annually that are excluded from the maximum contest limits. Sponsors believe softball is at a disadvantage from a developmental standpoint compared to other sports (i.e., soccer, volleyball) since the current legislation permits only three discretionary exemptions and counts any additional contests against those limits. The sponsors say that permitting eight additional contests during the non-championship segment, in addition to the three discretionary exemptions, would allow for proper in-game development, especially for incoming student-athletes, and scheduling flexibility for institutions.

Championships Committee position: Oppose. Committee members based their opposition on the proposal potentially infringing on the division's Life in the Balance philosophy (i.e., “season creep”) and potentially disadvantaging institutions that are unable to schedule that many contests. The committee also noted that the Division II Legislation Committee has indicated its opposition to the proposal. (Note: Cade Smith, whose institution is sponsoring this proposal, recused himself from the vote.)

- d. **Selection show analytics.** Staff updated the committee on the selection show analytics from the past academic year.

- e. **Make Game Day Yours update.** Staff updated the committee on the Make Game Day Yours regional training sessions. Staff also updated the committee on the modules available in Division II University.
- f. **Division II 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary update.** Staff provided an update on the division's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, including activations at championships.
- g. **Conflict of interest statement reminder.** Staff reminded committee members to complete the 2023-24 conflict of interest statement if they haven't done so already.

**10. Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- October 5, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- November 2, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- December 7, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- February 14-15, 2024 (meeting conducted virtually).
- June 17-18, 2024 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- September 10-11, 2024 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

*Committee Chair:* Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee September 14-15, 2023, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University of Pennsylvania (Management Council vice chair).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	



Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor (via videoconference).
<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, Becca Burchette, Antonio Cannavaro, Zach Christopher, Kelly Groddy, Terri Gronau, Leslie Havens, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Julia Longo, Ryan Rea, Angela Red, Alyssa Rice, Jennifer Roe, Rachel Seewald, Mickie Spears and Chris Strobel.

**Division II Championships Committee  
2024-27 Triennial Budget Recommendations**

**ATTACHMENT A**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>New Initiatives (Sport Committee Requests)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
All	General championship enhancements	\$25,000
All	Preliminary round signage (25% increase)	\$18,690
All	Officiating fee increase (DIII + \$10)	<b>\$24,000</b>
All	Banquets (\$30 to \$50)	\$114,280
Baseball	Finals site format change to best of three series	\$44,330
Baseball	Super regional format change to three days	\$58,810
Baseball	Increase travel party by one (29 to 30)	\$75,000
Basketball - M/W	Regional evaluator stipend (\$6,000 per gender)	\$12,000
Field Hockey	Increase bracket to eight teams (from six to eight)	\$85,000
Football	Increase officiating fees (from \$270 to \$325)	\$10,395
Football	Increase video evaluator fee (from \$110 to \$150)	\$1,080
Football	Increase alternate fees (from \$120 to \$200) and pay travel	\$28,000
Golf - M/W	Live scoring leaderboard at final site (\$10,000 per gender)	\$20,000
Golf - W	Increase regionals field size to 72 teams (from 48 to 72)	\$135,494
Lacrosse - M	Increase bracket to 16 teams (from 12 to 16)	\$135,000
Lacrosse - W	Increase bracket to 24 teams (from 16 to 24)	\$191,000
Soccer - M/W	Staggered start at final site	\$7,500
Soccer - M/W	Separation of third and quarterfinal rounds (Men's - \$35,028, Women's - \$25,244)	\$60,272
Softball	Additional cameras for video replay at final site	\$3,850
Swimming/Diving - M/W	Gifts for relay-only swimmers	\$6,200
Track - Indoor M/W	Set field sizes - updated request	\$29,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Set field sizes	\$136,000
Volleyball	National coordinator of officials	\$17,500
Volleyball	Travel expenses for line judges	\$36,000
Volleyball	Increase game fee for line judges at final site	\$240
Wrestling	Independent video review	\$12,500
Wrestling	Increase officials fees by \$25 per session	\$3,650
<b>*Exact amount pending DIII FY24 rates.</b>		
		<b>Allocated</b>
		<b>\$1,290,791</b>
		<b>Remaining</b>
		<b>\$209,209</b>

**Sport Committee Requests Not Recommended**

All	Honorariums (20%)	\$42,420
All	Mementos (\$75 to \$100)	\$142,850
Basketball - M/W	DV Sport at regional sites (\$85,604 per gender)	\$171,208
Golf - W	Increase final site field size to 20 teams (from 18 to 20)	\$25,506
Softball	Increase squad size to 24, travel party to 30	\$306,000
Softball	Increase squad size to 22, travel party to 28	\$154,000
Swimming/Diving - M	Increase field size by 30	\$72,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Four day outdoor championship; no increase to field size	\$187,590
Wrestling	Expenses for athletic trainer at final site	\$86,000

**Division II Championships Committee**  
**2024-27 Triennial Budget Recommendations**

**Items Rendered Moot by Recommendations Above**

Field Hockey	Increase bracket to seven teams (from six to seven)	\$42,000
Football	Increase alternate fees (from \$120 to \$200)	\$2,160
Golf - W	Increase regionals field size to 80 teams (from 48 to 80)	\$178,494
Lacrosse - M	Increase bracket to 14 teams (from 12 to 14)	\$68,000
Lacrosse - W	Increase bracket to 20 teams (16 to 20)	\$95,500
Track - Indoor M/W	Set field sizes	\$46,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Set field sizes - updated request option 1	\$96,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Set field sizes - updated request option 2	\$85,000



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 14-15 2023, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Regional berth allocations in baseball.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2023-24 sport sponsorship information:

Region	No. of Institutions	2022-23 Berths	2023-24 Berths	Access Ratio
Atlantic	31	7	7	4.43
Central	38	8	8	4.75
East	30	7	7	4.29
Midwest	32	7	7	4.57
South	35	8	8	4.38
South Central	22	6	6	3.67
Southeast	33	7	7	4.71
West	24	6	6	4.00
	<b>245</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>4.38</b>

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. The Division II Baseball Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year's sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions. The committee assigned championship berths to bring the access ratios into the tightest range possible within the bracket size of 56. The bid allocations remain the same as they were in 2022-23 in the above proposal.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

**b. Regional berth allocations in women's soccer.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2023-24 sport sponsorship information:

<b>Region</b>	<b>No. of Institutions</b>	<b>2022-23 Berths</b>	<b>2023-24 Berths</b>	<b>Access Ratio</b>
Atlantic	33	7	7	4.71
Central	34	8	8	4.25
East	33	8	7	4.71
Midwest	34	7	8	4.25
South	26	6	6	4.33
South Central	26	6	6	4.33
Southeast	34	8	8	4.25
West	30	6	6	5.00
	<b>250</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>4.46</b>

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Division II Women's Soccer Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year's sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions. The only change from last year is an increase of bids in the West and a decrease of bids in the East. With changing membership numbers in the East the committee felt it was best to adjust the bids accordingly. The committee assigned the rest of the berths to best keep consistency and to bring the access ratios into the tightest range possible within the bracket size of 56.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

**c. Regional berth allocations in men's and women's tennis.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2023-24 sport sponsorship information:

Men's Tennis:

<b>Region</b>	<b>No. of Institutions</b>	<b>2022-23 Berths</b>	<b>2023-24 Berths</b>	<b>Access Ratio</b>
Atlantic	18	7	7	2.57
Central	10	4	4	2.50
East	14	5	5	2.80
Midwest	26	8	8	3.25
South	28	8	8	3.50
South Central	9	4	4	2.25
Southeast	29	8	8	3.63
West	9	4	4	2.25
	143	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2.98</b>

Women's Tennis:

<b>Region</b>	<b>No. of Institutions</b>	<b>2022-23 Berths</b>	<b>2023-24 Berths</b>	<b>Access Ratio</b>
Atlantic	31	7	7	4.43
Central	26	6	6	4.33
East	21	5	5	4.20
Midwest	30	7	7	4.29
South	34	8	8	4.25
South Central	12	4	4	3.00
Southeast	31	7	7	4.43
West	14	4	4	3.50
	199	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4.15</b>

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year's sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions. The proposed allocation reflects the recently approved requirement that a minimum of four teams per region and a maximum of eight teams per region are selected.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

*Committee Chair:*     *Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.*

*Staff Liaison(s):*     *Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.*  
                                 *Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.*  
                                 *Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.*

## Division II Misconduct Penalties

### Overview.

Division II Championships Committee policy permits Division II sport committees to impose one or a combination of penalties to a student-athlete or institution involved in an act of misconduct during an NCAA championship. Specifically, regarding fines, the legislation allows for financial penalties only with the prior approval of the NCAA Division II Championships Committee.

### Financial Penalties.

The sport committees are authorized to assess a fine of up to \$1500 for an instance of misconduct (see Attachment). Financial penalties can only exceed this amount with prior approval by the Championships Committee.

This limit does not apply to fines that are restitution based (e.g., costs to repair damage to a facility caused by an act of misconduct). Sport committees can impose such a penalty without a prior approval by the Championships Committee.

### Standard for Appeal.

A misconduct determination by a sport or games committee may be appealed by the member institution (on its own or on behalf of its student-athlete) within 14 days of receiving written notice thereof in the following instances:

1. It is asserted that the misconduct determination by the sport or games committee is clearly contrary to the evidence presented.
2. It is asserted that the actions in question do not constitute misconduct as defined in NCAA Bylaw 18.02.4.
3. It is asserted that the sport or games committee did not follow its policies and procedures in reaching its determination and that procedural error significantly impacted the outcome of the original hearing.
4. It is asserted that the sport or games committee abused its discretion in imposing a specific penalty. An abuse of discretion occurs if the sport or games committee imposes a penalty that is not authorized by the bylaws or policy or is unreasonably excessive for the determined misconduct.

The director of athletics must submit a written notice of appeal to the governing championship committee. The appeal must include which of the above four instances the institution believes exists to support the appeal. In addition, the appeal should explain the circumstances and in particular provide information to support the appeal.

### Review of Penalties by the Division II Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee.



If an institution appeals a penalty of the sport committee, the Appeals Subcommittee may uphold, reduce, or waive the penalties imposed by the sport committee. The subcommittee shall only reduce or waive the penalties imposed by the sport committee if the subcommittee determines that the sport committee abused its discretion. The subcommittee may not increase the penalties, with the exception of reprimands. The subcommittee has the authority to add a public reprimand to the institution's penalties if not imposed by the sport committee.

### **Review of Misconduct Cases**

The Division II Championships Committee shall review the misconduct cases on a regular basis. This review will take place at the conclusion of each championship season and once all misconduct processes are final (i.e., the appeal window has expired or the appeal has been heard). The committee (or, the Appeals Subcommittee acting on behalf of the committee) has the authority to issue a public reprimand in a case that did not initially include a public reprimand as a penalty in such an instance where the committee deems it necessary to acknowledge publicly to prevent such actions from happening again in the future.

### **Applicable Division Policy**

**Penalty for Misconduct.** A governing sports committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice:

- (a) Public or private reprimand of the individual;
- (b) Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship involved;
- (c) Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more future championships of the sport involved;
- (d) Cancellation of payment to the institution of the Association's travel guarantee for the individual involved;
- (e) Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;
- (f) Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships; (Revised: 8/13/92)
- (g) Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship; and (Revised: 8/13/92)

(h) Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (g) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee. (Revised: 8/13/92)

**Financial Penalties.** Pursuant to established policies and procedures, a governing sports committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing championships administration, subject to review by and appeal to the Appeals Subcommittee.

**Failure to Adhere to Policy and Procedure and  
Misconduct Fine Structure**

*(Revised 9/15/2023)*

The NCAA Division II Championships Committee established a standardized fine structure that will be used for institutions that do not adhere to various Division II Championship policies and procedures effective September 1, 2023.

<b>Category B Violation – up to \$750</b>	<b>Examples</b>
Failure to submit selections forms, results, team information.	AQ notification form Home team box score Diving score sheet NCAA certification form Line-up forms, rosters, travel schedule Submission of individual/team qualifying results
Failure to attend coaches/administrative meeting.	
<b>Category A Violation – up to \$1500</b>	<b>Examples</b>
Misconduct.	
Failure to submit championship selection form that affects not only your team but other teams.	Regional entry rosters Line-up forms Championship scores Submission of line-up forms Declarations (Track and Field) OME (Swimming)
Failure to adhere to on-site championship policies.	Check-in procedures Head coach not attending press conference Not attending the banquet
Game tape exchange.	
Failure to meet required financial obligations.	Banquet tickets, team tickets*

**\*\*For repeat Category A and B offenders (individuals/institutions) fines may double per violation.**

***Note: Financial penalties may be exceeded beyond the designated amounts with prior approval of the Championships Committee.***

## 2023-24 DIVISION II FOOTBALL COMMITTEE

**Composition:** Eight members. Two from each of the Division II football super regionals – Super Regional 1 (Northeast-10, PSAC, MEC, GMAC), Super Regional 2 (CIAA, SAC, Gulf South, SIAC, Independents – Limestone, UNC-Pembroke, North Greenville), Super Regional 3 (GAC, GLVC, GLIAC, MIAA) and Super Regional 4 (RMAC, Lone Star, NSIC, GNAC). Quota of 50 percent administrators: 4.  
Each member must represent a different member conference or independent institution.

**Vacancies:** **One immediate vacancy, Lonny Allen resigned, Super Regional 1. Administrator.**

**Preference:** **At least two coaches.**

**Staff Liaison:** Randy Buhr

REG	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME, INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
<b>1</b>	<b>AD</b>	<b>N/M</b>	<b>Lonny Allen Tiffin University</b>	<b>Great Midwest Athletic</b>	<b>Allen*</b>			
1	C	N/M	Andy McKenzie Assumption University	Northeast-10	McKenzie	McKenzie	McKenzie	McKenzie*
2	C	N/M	Brett Gilliland University of West Alabama	Gulf South	Gilliland	Gilliland*		
2	Asst AD	Y/M	John Wilson Jr. Virginia State University	Central Intercollegiate Athletic	Wilson Jr.	Wilson Jr.	Wilson Jr.	Wilson Jr.*
3	Assoc AD/SW A	N/F	Meghan Mulcahy Northeastern State University	Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic	Mulcahy	Mulcahy	Mulcahy*	
3	AD	N/M	David Sharp Ouachita Baptist University	Great American	Sharp	Sharp	Sharp*	
4	AD	N/M	Dennis Francois Central Washington University	Great Northwest Athletic	Francois	Francois*		
4	C	Y/M	Jas Bains Western Colorado University	Rocky Mountain Athletic	Bains	Bains	Bains*	

08/16/2023

## 2023-24 DIVISION II WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE

Composition: Eight members. Division II women's soccer regions: West, Central, South Central, Midwest, South, Southeast, Atlantic, East. Quota of 50 percent administrators: 4.

**Vacancies:** **One immediate vacancy Carrie Bodkins resigned; school closed.**

Staff Liaison: Zach Christopher

REG	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME, INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
<b>Atl</b>	<b>AD</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Carrie Bodkins Alderson Broadbudd University</b>	<b>Mountain East</b>	<b>Bodkins</b>	<b>Bodkins</b>	<b>Bodkins*</b>	
Cen	C	N/M	Mike White Oklahoma Baptist University	Great American	White	White	White*	
East	Assoc AD/C	N/M	Michael Winn Pace University	Northeast-10	Winn	Winn	Winn*	
SoE	Asst. AD/SWA	N/F	Jamie Grodecki Georgia College	Peach Belt	Grodecki	Grodecki*		
So	Deputy AD	N/F	Kathy Kroupa Lynn University	Sunshine State	Kroupa	Kroupa	Kroupa*	
Mid W	C	N/M	Greg Herdlick Rockhurst University	Great Lakes Valley	Herdlick	Herdlick*		
West	C	N/F	Kacey Bingham Western Oregon University	Great Northwest Athletic	Bingham	Bingham*		
SoC	C	Y/M	Baback Abouzar Texas Woman's University	Lone Star	Abouzar	Abouzar*		

\*Not eligible for reappointment

08/28/2023

## 2023-24 DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING COMMITTEE

**Composition:** Five members, including two that represent men's swimming and two that represent women's swimming and one that represents diving (coach preferred). One male and one female. Quota of 50 percent administrators: **3**.

**Vacancies:** **Two immediate vacancies, DJ Bevevino resigned. Individual must be an administrator that represents diving. Britney Woodhull-Smith resigned, admin.**

**Staff Liaison:** Micaela Liddane

DIV.	POS.	EM/ GEN	NAME AND INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
II (M/W)	C	N/M	Marc Danin Adelphi University	Northeast-10	Danin	Danin	Danin	Danin*
II (M/W)	C	N/M	Andrew Makepeace Augustana University (SD)	Northern Sun Intercollegiate	Makepeace	Makepeace	Makepeace	Makepeace*
<b>II (M/W)</b>	<b>SWA</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Britney Woodhull-Smith Barton College</b>	<b>Conference Carolinas</b>	<b>Woodhull- Smith</b>	<b>Woodhull- Smith</b>	<b>Woodhull- Smith*</b>	
II (W)	Asst AD	N/M	Greg Petcoff Western Colorado University	Rocky Mountain Athletic	Petcoff	Petcoff	Petcoff*	
<b>II (Diving)</b>	<b>Assoc AD</b>	<b>N/M</b>	<b>DJ Bevevino Clarion University of Pennsylvania</b>	<b>Pennsylvania State Athletic</b>	<b>Bevevino</b>	<b>Bevevino*</b>		

\*Not eligible for reappointment  
08/17/2023

## 2023-24 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOCCER RULES COMMITTEE

**Composition:** Nine members, including four members from Division I, two members from Division II, two members from Division III and a secretary-rules editor. Within each division, one-half of the members shall represent men's soccer interests and one-half of the members shall represent women's soccer interests. An additional member shall be elected as secretary-rules editor. Quota of 25 percent administrators: **2**. Quota of 50 percent coaches: **4**. Each division will adhere to the 50 percent coaches independently.

**Duties:** Establish and maintain rules of play consistent with the traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. This committee is subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

**Vacancies:** **One immediate vacancy, Keith Davie resigned, DII – administrator.**

**Staff Liaison:** Ashlee Follis

DIV	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME, INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
FBS (W)	C	N/F	Courtney Sirmans Miami University (OH)	Mid-American	Sirmans	Sirmans	Sirmans*	
FBS (M/W)	Dep AD/SWA	N/F	Amy Calabrese University of Louisville	Atlantic Coast	Calabrese	Calabrese	Calabrese	Calabrese*
FCS (M/W)	Sr. Assoc AD	N/M	Brian 'Rudy' Fuller University of Pennsylvania	Ivy League	Fuller*			
DI (M)	C	N/M	Tim Cupello University of California, Riverside	Big West	Cupello*			
II (W)	C	N/F	Kim Sutton California State University Chico	California Collegiate Athletic	Sutton	Sutton	Sutton*	
<b>II (M/W)</b>	<b>AD</b>	<b>N/M</b>	<b>Keith Davie Alliance University</b>	<b>Central Atlantic Collegiate</b>	<b>Davie</b>	<b>Davie</b>	<b>Davie</b>	<b>Davie*</b>
III (M)	C	N/M	Brandon Bianco Denison University	North Coast Athletic	Bianco	Bianco*		
III (W)	C	N/M	Brandon Koons Otterbein University	Ohio Athletic	Koons	Koons	Koons*	

\*Not eligible for reappointment 07/11/2023



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023, ELECTRONIC VOTE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **Sport committee appointment.** The committee approved the following sport committee appointment, effective immediately (see Attachment).
  - **Women's soccer (immediate appointment).** Erika Torrez, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Wingate University, replacing Jamie Grodecki, assistant director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Georgia College, who left the institution.

Committee Chair: Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee September 27, 2023, Electronic Vote	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Santee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
<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>
Leslie Havens.

## 2023-24 DIVISION II WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE

Composition: Eight members. Division II women's soccer regions: West, Central, South Central, Midwest, South, Southeast, Atlantic, East. Quota of 50 percent administrators: 4.

**Vacancies:** **One immediate vacancy Jamie Grodecki, SoE region, admin.**

Staff Liaison: Zach Christopher

REG	POS	EM/ GEN	NAME, INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE	9/23-9/24	9/24-9/25	9/25-9/26	9/26-9/27
Atl	Sr. Assoc AD	N/M	Todd Diuguid University of Charleston (West Virginia)	Mountain East	Diuguid	Diuguid	Diuguid	Diuguid*
Cen	C	N/M	Mike White Oklahoma Baptist University	Great American	White	White	White*	
East	Assoc AD/C	N/M	Michael Winn Pace University	Northeast-10	Winn	Winn	Winn*	
<b>SoE</b>	<b>Asst. AD/SWA</b>	<b>N/F</b>	<b>Jamie Grodecki Georgia College</b>	<b>Peach Belt</b>	<b>Grodecki</b>	<b>Grodecki*</b>		
So	Deputy AD	N/F	Kathy Kroupa Lynn University	Sunshine State	Kroupa	Kroupa	Kroupa*	
Mid W	C	N/M	Greg Herdlick Rockhurst University	Great Lakes Valley	Herdlick	Herdlick*		
West	C	N/F	Kacey Bingham Western Oregon University	Great Northwest Athletic	Bingham	Bingham*		
SoC	C	Y/M	Baback Abouzar Texas Woman's University	Lone Star	Abouzar	Abouzar*		

\*Not eligible for reappointment  
09/13/2023



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 5, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** NCAA Division II Championships Committee chair Nathan Gibson welcomed the group and previewed the agenda.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved reports from its Sept. 14-15 in-person meeting and Sept. 27 electronic vote, as presented.
3. **Streaming initiative update.** Staff updated the committee on an anticipated agreement between Warner Brothers Discovery and Hudl to stream all games of the 2023 NCAA Division II Football Championship, the 2023 NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Championship, and the 2024 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships (except for the semifinals and finals in basketball and football due to the existing broadcast contracts). The contract being negotiated is expected to be executed soon and will be followed by a comprehensive communication plan that will include direct outreach to the relevant sport committees and notice to the membership at large via established platforms (e.g., monthly championships and governance newsletters). The streaming initiative also will be included in the bid specifications for the four championships.
4. **Regionalization review.** The committee reviewed and provided feedback on a draft discussion document for sport committees to use during their annual meetings in 2024 regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The committee during its September meeting discussed questions for sport committees to consider regarding potential new bracketing approaches, either to set guardrails for the sport committees or questions on which the committee needs sport committee input. The committee revisited these questions at length and discussed the best approach to position sport committees to provide the most meaningful input to best inform the Championships Committee's recommendations regarding regionalization moving forward. Staff will continue refining this document with the goal of finalizing it either during the committee's December or January videoconferences. The committee also confirmed the timeline for the review, noting that the committee will review all sport committee feedback during its June 2024 in-person meeting. The committee also noted that the NCAA's new media contract should be finalized by spring 2024, which will help guide next steps with an awareness of budget dollars available.
5. **Future meetings and videoconferences.**
  - Nov. 2, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
  - Dec. 7, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
  - Jan. 4, 2024, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
  - Feb. 23-24, 2024 (meeting conducted virtually).

- Jun. 17-18, 2024 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

*Committee Chair:* Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee October 5, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University of Pennsylvania (Management Council vice chair).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
<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>	
Antonio Cannavaro, Terri Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Julia Longo and Angela Red.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Various Bylaws -- Incorporating NCAA Division II Bylaw 12 into Division II Bylaws 7 and 14.**
  - (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to rename Bylaw 14 as Eligibility: academic and general requirements; further, to incorporate Bylaw 12 (amateurism) into Bylaws 7 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control) and 14, as specified. [Attachment]
  - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.
  - (3) Rationale. Following the adoption of the new constitution at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council established an Implementation Committee that included 28 voting members who were 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 NCAA Division II Legislation Committee was tasked with reviewing various bylaws, which included Bylaw 12. Upon further review, the Legislation Committee determined incorporating Bylaw 12 into Bylaws 7 and 14 and renaming Bylaw 14 was appropriate due to the incorporation and reorganization of the bylaw.
  - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Discussion regarding NCAA Division II Legislation Committee positions on 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Proposal Nos. 2024-1 and 2024-2.** During their summer meetings, the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council, referred the membership-sponsored proposals listed below to the Legislation Committee for review. The Legislation Committee agreed to take the following positions on the proposals:

- a. Proposal No. 2024 -1 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest. The Legislation Committee agreed to oppose the proposal. The Legislation Committee noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the Legislation Committee noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The Legislation Committee also noted the impact on the work-life balance of athletic administrators. Additionally, it was noted that this proposal may prompt other Division II sports to feel the need to begin their playing and practice season earlier. Finally, the committee noted that although the change may be permissive there is a potential competitive advantage since some Division II institutions may not be able to bring their student-athletes in earlier due to budget constraints.

[Note: Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo; Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo; Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University; Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University; and Melissa Thacker, Cameron University, recused themselves from the vote on this proposal.]

- b. Proposal No. 2024 -2 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests. The Legislation Committee agreed to oppose the proposal. The Legislation Committee noted that the change may result in some inequities between institutions who are able to participate in all contests (56 contests during the championship segment and eight during the nonchampionship segment) and those institutions unable to do so. The Legislation Committee also noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II since this may prompt more sports to increase the number of competitions or contests they participate in.

[Note: Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo; and Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo, recused themselves from the vote on this proposal.]

2. **Review of the educational resources regarding the 2024 Division II Convention proposals.** During its March 21-22, 2023, videoconference, the Legislation Committee discussed what educational resources and materials should be provided to the membership associated with governance-sponsored and membership-sponsored proposals. The Legislation Committee recommended providing an iteration of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee electronic legislative grid, along with the Convention voiceover video.

NCAA staff provided the Legislation Committee with a preview of the legislative grid that will be released to the Division II membership in preparation for the 2024 Convention. The

legislative grid will be released to the membership, along with the Convention voiceover video, by September 23, 2023.

3. **Review of the updated draft incorporation of Bylaw 12 (amateurism) into Bylaw 7 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control) and Bylaw 14 (eligibility: academic and general requirements).** The Legislation Committee reviewed an updated draft of the incorporation of Bylaw 12 into Bylaw 14 and recommended noncontroversial legislation to rename Bylaw 14, as well as to incorporate Bylaw 12 into Bylaw 7 and Bylaw 14, as specified. [See Legislative Action Item.]
4. **Update on the membership feedback survey related to Bylaws 13 (recruiting) and 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes).** Staff provided the Legislation Committee with a preview of the membership feedback survey that outlines the potential recommended concepts for Bylaws 13 and Bylaw 16. Staff also noted that the survey will be released to the Division II membership in late September/early October 2023. The Legislation Committee will review the survey results at its November 29-30, 2023, in-person meeting and determine whether any legislative changes are necessary.
5. **Discussion regarding a student-athlete serving with a Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative on the Division II Legislation Committee.** The Legislation Committee discussed and provided feedback on a referral from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). Specifically, the Legislation Committee was asked to provide feedback on whether it would be beneficial to add a current or former Division II student-athlete to its composition to serve alongside the Division II SAAC representative. The Legislation Committee agreed it would be beneficial to add another student-athlete representative; however, the Legislation Committee raised concerns about adding a non-National SAAC representative when there is an opportunity to utilize current student-athletes that are serving as a Division II National SAAC representative.
6. **Update on the National Letter of Intent policy.** The Legislation Committee received an update on the recent National Letter of Intent (NLI) policy change. Specifically, that the NLI program, which will expand to permit four-year college transfers from NCAA institutions to sign an NLI provided they have entered the NCAA Transfer Portal, will be effective for the 2024-25 NLI signing year.
7. **Update on the work of the NCAA Board of Governors.** The Legislation Committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors most recent meeting.
8. **Update on the NCAA Division I Council Working Group on Name, Image and Likeness.** The Legislation Committee received an update on the work of the Division I Council Working Group on Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) and their charge from the NCAA Division I Board of Directors to develop NIL proposal(s) intended to improve the NIL environment for Division I student-athletes. Staff also provided the Legislation Committee with an overview of a potential timeline for Division II's review of any proposal(s) introduced by the Division I Council Working Group on NIL. The Legislation Committee

will review the Division I proposal(s) and any initial feedback received from various internal and external groups during its November 29-30, 2023, in-person meeting.

9. **Review of the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee policies and procedures.** The Legislation Committee reviewed and approved updates to its policies and procedures.
10. **Approval of the April 19, 2023, electronic voting report and June 28-29, 2023, in-person meeting report of the Legislation Committee.** The Legislation Committee reviewed and approved its April 19, 2023, electronic voting report and its June 28-29, 2023, in-person meeting report.
11. **Review of the Summer 2023 Division II Presidents Council and Division II Management Council Summary of Actions.** The Legislation Committee received an update on the actions taken at the summer Management Council and Presidents Council quarterly meetings.
12. **Update on the Division II 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.** The Legislation Committee received an update regarding the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Division II.
13. **Subcommittee appointments.** The Legislation Committee appointed Kayla Lothian, compliance coordinator and associate director of athletics, Dominican University of California; and Melissa Thacker, faculty athletics representative, Cameron University, to the Interpretations Subcommittee, effective immediately. Additionally, the Legislation Committee appointed Dawn Makofski, senior woman administrator, University of Montevallo; Deborah Rodgers, senior woman administrator, Tuskegee University; and Suzanne Sanregret, director of athletics, Michigan Technological University, to the Legislative Review Subcommittee, effective immediately.
14. **Future Meeting Dates.**
  - a. November 29-30, 2023, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
  - b. March 26-27, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
  - c. June 25-26, 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.



Report of the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee

September 13, 2023, Videoconference

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*Committee Chair:* Audra Kedy, Great American Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Megan McDonald, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislation Committee September 13, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive.	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Kayla Lothian, Dominican University of California.	
Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo.	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Denton, Chelsea Hooks and Megan McDonald.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Becca Burchette Medel, Robert Turick, Angela Red and Drea Rog.	

**Bylaw 7 -- NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control  
and  
Bylaw 14 -- Eligibility: Academic and Athletics Requirements**

**Bylaw 7 – NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control**

**7.01 General Principles.**

**7.02 Definitions and Applications.**

**7.1 Eligibility for Division II Membership.**

**7.2 Establishment of and Compliance with Division Criteria.**

**7.3 Active Membership.**

**7.4 Financial Donations From Outside Organizations.**

**7.4.1 Professional Sports Organizations.**

**7.4.1.1 To Noncollegiate Amateur Team.** A noncollegiate amateur team or playing league shall not be considered a professional team or league, even if it receives financial support from a national amateur sports administrative organization or its equivalent that in turn receives developmental funds from a professional team or professional sports organization.

**7.4.1.2 To Intercollegiate Event.** A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an intercollegiate competition event, provided the organization is not publicly identified as such. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an activity or promotion that is ancillary to the competition event and may be publicly identified as such.

**7.4.1.3 Developmental Funds to NCAA.** A professional sports organization may provide funds for intercollegiate athletics developmental purposes in a particular sport (e.g., officiating expenses, research and educational projects, the conduct of summer leagues, purchase of equipment). However, such funds shall be provided in an unrestricted manner and administered through the Association's national office.

**7.4.1.4 To Institution.** A member institution may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the institution, including ancillary activities and promotions.

**7.4.1.5 To Conference.** A member conference may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the conference, including ancillary activities and promotions.

**7.4.1.6 Revenues Derived from Pro-Am Events.** The distribution of revenues from an event involving an intercollegiate athletics team and a professional sports team (e.g., a baseball game in which a member institution's team plays against a professional baseball team) or pro-am event (e.g., golf, tennis) that results in a member institution receiving a share of receipts from such a contest is permitted, provided the institution has a formal agreement with the professional sports team regarding the institution's guarantee or share of receipts and the contractual terms are consistent with agreements made by the professional team or individuals for similar intercollegiate or nonprofessional competition.

**7.4.1.7 Promotion of Professional Athletics Contests.** A member institution may host and promote an athletics contest between two professional teams from recognized professional sports leagues as a fundraising activity for the institution.

#### **7.4.2 Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.**

**7.4.2.1 Individual Athletics Performance.** A member institution shall not accept funds donated from a nonprofessional sports organization based on the place finish of a student-athlete or the number of student-athletes representing the institution in an event. However, the organization may donate an equal amount of funds to every institution with an athlete or team participating in a particular event.

**7.4.2.2 Individual and Team Rankings.** A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's national or regional ranking.

**7.4.2.3 Academic Performance.** A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's academic performance (e.g., the number of academic All-American award recipients).

#### **7.5 Provisional Membership.**

#### **7.6 Active Division II Membership Following Reclassification.**

#### **7.7 Multidivision Classification.**

#### **7.8 Reclassification from Division II to Division I or Division III.**

#### **7.9 Institutional Eligibility.**

## **Bylaw 14 – Eligibility: Academic and Athletics Requirements**

### **14.01 General Principles**

**14.01.1 Clear Line of Demarcation.** Member institutions' athletics programs are designed to be an integral part of the educational program. The student-athlete is considered an integral part of the student body, thus maintaining a clear line of demarcation between college athletics and professional sports.

**14.01.2 Compliance with Other NCAA and Conference Legislation.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Association and all rules and regulations of the institution and the conference(s), if any, of which the institution is a member. A violation of this bylaw that relates only to a violation of a conference rule shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10 however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. Specific attention is called to legislation affecting eligibility in the following areas.

**14.01.2.1 Impermissible Benefits.** A student-athlete shall not be eligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if they receive impermissible awards, extra benefits, excessive or improper expenses not authorized by NCAA legislation (see Bylaw 16), takes or has taken pay, or accepts the promise of pay in any form for participation in that sport. A student-athlete who receives an institutional postgraduate scholarship as part of a senior scholar-athlete award as set forth in Bylaw 16.1.3.1.1 shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics participation in all sports, except that a student may complete the remainder of any season currently in progress at the time of the award (e.g., postseason competition in a spring sport which occurs after graduation).

**14.01.2.2 Unethical Conduct.** A prospective or enrolled student-athlete who is found to have engaged in unethical conduct (see Bylaw 10.1) shall be ineligible for intercollegiate competition in all sports.

**14.01.2.3 Financial Aid.** A student-athlete who receives financial assistance other than that authorized by the Association shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics competition (see Bylaw 15). A grant-in-aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association's membership.

**14.01.2.4 Recruitment.** Solicitation of a student-athlete's enrollment by the certifying institution or any representative of its athletics interests in violation of the Association's legislation shall render the student-athlete ineligible to represent that institution in intercollegiate athletics. A student-athlete is responsible during their recruitment for involvement in a violation of NCAA regulations, and the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may restore the eligibility of a student involved in such violation only when circumstances clearly warrant restoration. The eligibility of a student-athlete involved in a

major violation shall not be restored other than through an exception authorized by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement in a unique case on the basis of specifically stated reasons (see Bylaw 13).

**14.01.3 Eligibility for Intercollegiate Athletics.** Only a student-athlete who satisfies all eligibility requirements may participate in intercollegiate athletics in a particular sport.

**14.01.4 Institutional Responsibility.** An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless the student-athlete meets all applicable eligibility requirements and the institution has certified the student-athlete's eligibility. A violation of this bylaw in which the institution fails to certify the student-athlete's eligibility prior to allowing them to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility, provided all necessary information to certify the student-athlete's eligibility was available to the institution and the student-athlete otherwise would have been eligible for competition.

#### **14.02 Definitions and Applications.**

**14.02.1 Academic Misconduct -- Post-Enrollment.** All institutional staff members and student-athletes are expected to act with honesty and integrity in all academic matters. Post-enrollment academic misconduct includes any violation or breach of an institutional policy regarding academic honesty or integrity (e.g., academic offense, academic honor code violation, plagiarism, academic fraud).

**14.02.2 Agent.** An agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly:

- (a) Represents or attempts to represent an individual for the purpose of marketing their athletics ability or reputation for financial gain; or
- (b) Seeks to obtain any type of financial gain or benefit from securing a prospective student-athlete's enrollment at an educational institution or from a student-athlete's potential earnings as a professional athlete.

**14.02.3 Agency Contract.** An agency contract is an agreement in which a student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

**14.02.4 Branch School.** A branch school is an educational institution that usually offers two years of college work, does not award degrees independently, and is wholly controlled and operated by a four-year, degree-granting parent institution.

**14.02.5 Collegiate Institution.** A collegiate institution (for purposes of NCAA legislation) is an institution of higher education that:

- (a) Is accredited at the college level by an agency or association recognized by the Secretary of the Department of Education and legally authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree; (*Revised: 1/10/90*)
- (b) Conducts an intercollegiate athletics program, even though the institution is not accredited at the college level and authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree; or
- (c) Is located in a foreign country.

**14.02.6 Criteria Governing Compensation to Student-Athletes.** All compensation received by a student-athlete must be consistent with the limitations on financial aid set forth in Bylaw 15. Compensation may be paid to a student-athlete:

- (a) Only for work actually performed;
- (b) At a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services; and
- (c) In instances where the student-athlete does not have a contract or agreement (oral or written) for name, image and likeness activities, an employer shall not use the athletics reputation of a student-athlete employee to promote the sale of the employer's product or services.

**14.02.7 Education-Impacting Disability.** An education-impacting disability is a current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and requires accommodation.

**14.02.8 Exception.** An exception is the granting of relief from the application of a specific regulation (e.g., the residence requirement for a transfer student to become eligible for competition). Formal approval by the Management Council or an NCAA committee is not required. The action granting the exception may be taken solely by the certifying institution, based on evidence that the conditions on which the exception is authorized have been met (see Bylaw 14.02.27).

**14.02.9 Good Academic Standing and Progress Toward Degree.** The phrases "good academic standing" and "progress toward degree" are to be interpreted at each member institution by the academic officials who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students, subject to the controlling regulations of the institution; the conference(s) (or similar associations), if any, of which the institution is a member; and applicable NCAA legislation (see Bylaw 14.2.9). The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, be in good academic standing and maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.

**14.02.10 Grade-Point Average.** For purposes of calculating a grade-point average for NCAA eligibility (e.g., progress toward degree), a student must achieve a minimum grade-point average based on a maximum of 4.000 grading scale, unless otherwise specified in the legislation.

**14.02.11 Impermissible Academic Assistance -- Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests.** Impermissible academic assistance by a current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests includes, but is not limited to, the provision of or arrangement of:

- (a) Substantial assistance that is not generally available to an institution's students and is not otherwise expressly authorized in Bylaw 16.3, which results in the certification of a student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics or receive financial aid; or
- (b) An academic exception that results in a grade change, academic credit or fulfillment of a graduation requirement when such an exception is not generally available to the institution's students and the exception results in the certification of a student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics or receive financial aid.

**14.02.12 Intercollegiate Competition.** Intercollegiate competition occurs when a student-athlete in either a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution:

- (a) Represents the institution in any contest against outside competition, regardless of how the competition is classified (e.g., scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice session with another institution's team) or whether the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies;
- (b) Competes in the uniform of the institution or, during the academic year, uses any apparel (excluding apparel no longer used by the institution) received from the institution that includes institutional identification (see Bylaw 16.11.1.5 for regulations governing the use of equipment during the summer);
- (c) Competes and receives expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, room or entry fees) from the institution for the competition (See Bylaw 14.4.7.3.4 for an exception for medical services for a student-athlete competing unattached); or
- (d) Competes in outside competition as a member of a club team at a two-year or four-year collegiate institution, provided the institution sponsors the sport on the varsity level.

**14.02.12.1 Exempted Events.** Participation in events listed in Bylaws 16.8.1.2-(a), -(b) and -(c) is exempted from the application of this legislation.

**14.02.12.2 Exemption -- Tryouts.** The participation of student-athletes in contests against prospective student-athletes trying out at member institutions (in accordance with Bylaw 13.11.2.1) shall be exempted from the application of this legislation.

**14.02.13 National Team.** A national team is one selected, organized and sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for 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). The selection for such a team shall be made on a national qualification basis, either through a defined selective process or by actual tryouts, publicly announced in advance. In addition, the international competition in question shall require that the entrants officially represent their respective nations, although it is not necessary to require team scoring by nation.

**14.02.14 Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics.** Participation in intercollegiate athletics occurs when a student-athlete either practices in a sport (see Bylaw 17.02.1) or competes in a sport, as defined in Bylaw 14.02.12. Eligibility rules for competition may differ from those for practice.

**14.02.15 Pay.** Pay is the receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted by the governing legislation of the Association for participation in athletics.

**14.02.16 Professional Athlete.** A professional athlete is one who receives any kind of payment, directly or indirectly, for athletics participation except as permitted by the governing legislation of the Association.

**14.02.17 Professional Athletics Team.** A professional team is any organized team that:

- (a) Provides any of its players more than actual and necessary expenses for participation on the team, except as otherwise permitted by NCAA legislation. Actual and necessary expenses are limited to the following, provided the value of these items is commensurate with the fair market value in the locality of the player(s) and is not excessive in nature:
  - (1) Meals directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
  - (2) Lodging directly tied to competition and practice held in preparation for such competition;
  - (3) Apparel, equipment and supplies;
  - (4) Coaching and instruction;
  - (5) Health/medical insurance;
  - (6) Transportation (i.e., expenses to and from practice and competition, cost of transportation from home to training/practice site at the beginning of the season and from training/practice site to home at the end of season);
  - (7) Medical treatment and physical therapy;
  - (8) Facility usage;



- (9) Entry fees; and
  - (10) Other reasonable expenses; or
- (b) Declares itself to be professional.

**14.02.18 Professional Service Provider.** A professional service provider is an individual who provides third party services to an individual regarding their name, image and likeness. A professional service provider includes, but shall not be limited to, an agent, tax advisor, marketing consultant, attorney or anyone who is employed or associated with such persons.

**14.02.19 Qualification Status.**

**14.02.19.1 Qualifier.** A qualifier is a student who, for purposes of determining eligibility for financial aid, practice and competition, has met all of the following requirements (see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1):

- (a) Graduation from high school;
- (b) Successful completion of a required core curriculum consisting of a minimum number of courses in specified subjects; and
- (c) Specified minimum grade-point average in the core curriculum (see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1.3).

**14.02.19.2 Partial Qualifier.** A partial qualifier is a student who does not meet the requirements for a qualifier.

**14.02.20 Religious Mission, Official.** An official religious mission is one that is required by the religious organization of which the individual is a member and that results in the individual being unable to attend a collegiate institution during the period of the mission.

**14.02.21 Residence.** Residence is enrollment in a full-time academic program (as defined by the institution) at a collegiate institution during a regular term of an academic year. A summer term may not be used to satisfy an academic term or year of residence. Any student-athlete (e.g., qualifier, partial qualifier, transfer student) admitted after the 12th class day may not use that semester or quarter for the purpose of satisfying an academic term or year of residence.

**14.02.21.1 Academic Year of Residence.** To satisfy an academic year of residence, a student shall:

- (a) Be enrolled in and complete a minimum full-time program of studies for two full semesters or three full quarters; or
- (b) Be enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies for two semesters or three quarters and pass a number of hours (including hours earned at the certifying institution during a summer term) that is at least equal to the sum total of the minimum load of each of the required terms.

#### **14.02.22 Specific Athletically Related Employment Activities.**

**14.02.22.1 National Team Practice and Competition.** A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses and reasonable benefits associated with national team practice and competition (e.g., health insurance, broken-time payments).

**14.02.22.2 Fee-for-Lesson Instruction.** A student-athlete may receive compensation for teaching or coaching sport skills or techniques in their sport on a fee-for-lesson basis, provided all compensation received by the student-athlete is consistent with the criteria governing compensation to student-athletes (see Bylaw 14.02.6).

**14.02.23 Student-Athlete.** A student-athlete is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program. Any other student becomes a student-athlete only when the student reports for an intercollegiate squad that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department, as specified in Bylaw 7.3.1.5.4. A student is not deemed a student-athlete solely on the basis of prior high school athletics participation.

**14.02.24 Transfer Student.** A transfer student, in the application of NCAA eligibility requirements, is a student who transfers from any collegiate institution after having met any one of the conditions set forth in Bylaw 14.3.2.

**14.02.25 Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming.** Triathlon includes elements of competition similar to cross country, track and field and swimming competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of Bylaw 14. Therefore, triathlon and cross country are considered the same sport, triathlon and track and field are considered the same sport, and triathlon and swimming are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaw 14 (see Bylaw 14.4.7.1.3 for an exception for outside competition legislation).

**14.02.26 Waiver.** A waiver is an action exempting an individual or institution from the application of a specific regulation. A waiver requires formal approval (e.g., by the Management Council, an NCAA committee or a conference, as specified in the legislation) based on evidence of compliance with the specified conditions or criteria under which the waiver is authorized (see Bylaw 14.02.8).

**14.1 General Eligibility Requirements.** An individual's (prospective student-athlete or enrolled student-athlete) eligibility for participation in athletics shall be determined using the following provisions. (See Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 regarding participation in organized competition prior to initial collegiate enrollment and Bylaw 14.12 regarding the eligibility restoration process.)

##### **14.1.1 Credentials and Eligibility Status.**

###### **14.1.1.1 Academic Credentials.**

**14.1.1.1.1 Invalidation of Academic Credentials After Initial-Eligibility Certification.** If a student-athlete's academic credentials (e.g., transcript, test scores) are invalidated after their initial eligibility has been certified, the institution must report any violation that may have occurred as a result of the student-athlete's

receipt of financial aid or participation in practice or competition and declare the student-athlete ineligible for competition. If such a violation occurred, the student-athlete remains ineligible for intercollegiate competition unless eligibility is restored by the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement regardless of whether an initial-eligibility waiver is granted after the invalidation of the academic credentials.

**14.1.1.1.2 Validity of Academic Credentials.** As a condition and obligation of membership, an institution is responsible for determining the validity of a student-athlete's academic record.

**14.1.1.2 Eligibility Status.**

**14.1.1.2.1 Validity of Eligibility Status.** As a condition and obligation of membership, it is the responsibility of an institution to determine the validity of the information on which the eligibility status of a prospective student-athlete (e.g., including a two-year and four-year college transfer initially enrolling at an NCAA Division II institution) and student-athlete is based. (See Bylaw 14.01.2)

**14.1.1.2.2 Scope.** The certification of eligibility status issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center is limited to activities that occur prior to a prospective student-athlete requesting a final eligibility certification or their initial full-time collegiate enrollment at an NCAA Division II institution, whichever occurs earlier.

**14.1.1.3 NCAA Eligibility Center.** An institution shall use the NCAA Eligibility Center approved by the NCAA Board of Governors to determine the validity of a student-athlete's academic record and information on which the eligibility status of a student-athlete is based.

**14.1.1.4 Institutional Responsibilities.**

**14.1.1.4.1 Validity of Initial-Eligibility Information.** An institution is responsible for promptly reporting all discrepancies in information used in a student-athlete's initial-eligibility certification to the NCAA Eligibility Center. Discrepancies in information include, but are not limited to, corrections, additions, potential academic misconduct with regard to high schools attended, grades, completion of coursework or test scores.

**14.1.1.4.2 Eligibility Status After Certification.** An institution is responsible for certifying the eligibility status of a prospective student-athlete from the time they request a final certification be issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center or they initially enroll as a full-time student at an NCAA Division I or II institution (whichever occurs earlier).

**14.1.1.4.3 Sharing Information and Reporting Discrepancies.** An institution is responsible for notifying the NCAA Eligibility Center when it receives additional

information, or otherwise has cause to believe, that a previously certified prospective student-athlete's eligibility status has been jeopardized. Further, an institution is responsible for promptly reporting all discrepancies in information related to a student-athlete's certification to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

**14.1.1.5 Eligibility for Practice and Competition.** Prior to engaging in practice or competition, a student-athlete shall receive a certification of eligibility status for activities that occur prior to the certification or initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA Division II institution (whichever occurs earlier).

**14.1.1.5.1 Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete.** If a recruited or nonrecruited student-athlete reports for athletics participation before the student-athlete's eligibility status has been certified, the student-athlete may practice, but not compete, for a maximum of 45 days, provided the student-athlete is enrolled full time or has been accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student. After this 45-day period, the student shall have established minimum requirements as eligible for participation in athletics (as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center) to continue practicing or to compete.

**14.1.1.5.1.1 Effect of Violation.** A violation of Bylaw 14.1.1.5.1 in which the student-athlete is subsequently certified without conditions shall be considered an institutional violation per Constitution Article 1-E but shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

#### **14.1.2 Certification of Eligibility.**

**14.1.2.1 Institutional Responsibility for Eligibility Certification.** The president or chancellor is responsible for approving the procedures for certifying the eligibility of an institution's student-athletes under NCAA legislation. The president or chancellor may designate an individual on the institution's staff to administer proper certification of eligibility. Certification of eligibility must occur prior to allowing a student-athlete to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw 14.01.4). A violation of this bylaw in which the institution fails to certify a student-athlete's eligibility prior to allowing them to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility, provided all the necessary information to certify the student-athlete's eligibility was available to the institution and the student-athlete otherwise would have been eligible for competition.

**14.1.2.2 Eligibility List Form.** The institution's athletics director shall compile on a form approved by the Management Council a list of the squad members in each sport on the first day of competition and shall indicate thereon the status of each member in the designated categories. A student-athlete's name must be on the official institutional form in order for the student to be eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition. Violations of this bylaw do not affect a student-athlete's eligibility, if the violation occurred

due to an institutional administrative error or oversight, and the student-athlete is added to the form once the omission is realized; however, the violation shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10.

**14.1.2.2.1 Eligibility List.** The following procedures shall be used for the eligibility list:

- (a) The forms shall be kept on file in the office of the athletics director, and such file shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of another member institution, the NCAA, and, if the institution is a member of a conference, an authorized representative of the conference;
- (b) Any student-athlete who is included on the eligibility list must have signed a drug-testing consent form;
- (c) A supplementary form may be filed to add names of persons not initially on the eligibility list or to indicate a change of status;
- (d) A student-athlete's name must be on the official institutional form to qualify to represent the institution in intercollegiate athletics; and
- (e) The athletics director and head coach in the sport in which the student-athletes participate shall sign the eligibility list for that particular sport.

### **14.1.3 Ineligibility.**

**14.1.3.1 Obligation of Member Institution to Withhold Student-Athlete From Competition.** If a student-athlete is ineligible under the provisions of the constitution, bylaws or other regulations of the Association, the institution shall be obligated to apply immediately the applicable rule and to withhold the student-athlete from all intercollegiate competition. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility as provided in Bylaw 14.1.4, if it concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration.

**14.1.3.1.1 Application of Ineligibility Ruling Pending Appeal.** Once an interpretation (per Bylaw 9.4.1.2) applicable to a member institution has been issued and results in the ineligibility of a student-athlete, it is necessary for the institution to apply the rule to the eligibility of the student-athlete, even if review of the interpretation (per Bylaw 9.4.1.2.1.1.1 or Bylaw 9.4.1.2.1.2) at the request of the institution is pending. Failure to withhold such a student-athlete from competition is a violation of the conditions and obligations of membership.

**14.1.3.1.2 Payment of Legal Fees During Appeal.** A member institution may provide actual and necessary expenses for a prospective student-athlete to attend proceedings conducted by the institution, its athletics conference or the NCAA that relate to the prospective student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate

athletics, provided the prospective student-athlete either has signed a National Letter of Intent with the institution or (if the institution is not a subscribing member of the National Letter of Intent program) the prospective student-athlete has been accepted for enrollment by the institution and has provided written confirmation of their intent to enroll at the institution. The cost of legal representation in such proceedings also may be provided by the institution (or a representative of its athletic interests).

#### **14.1.3.2 Ineligible Participation.**

**14.1.3.2.1 Loss of Eligibility.** A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate competition in a sport, if they participate in intercollegiate competition in that sport while ineligible under this bylaw or other applicable NCAA legislation. The certifying institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility, if it concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration (see Bylaw 14.1.4).

#### **14.1.4 Restoration of Eligibility.**

**14.1.4.1 Basis for Appeal.** When a student-athlete is determined to be ineligible under any applicable provision of the constitution, bylaws or other regulations of the Association, the member institution, having applied the applicable rule and having withheld the student-athlete from all intercollegiate competition, may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student's eligibility, provided the institution concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration of eligibility.

**14.1.4.2 Participation in Appeal Hearing.** Any appeal to restore a student-athlete's eligibility shall be submitted in the name of the institution by the president or chancellor (or an individual designated by the president or chancellor), faculty athletics representative, senior woman administrator or athletics director (for the men's or women's program). At least one of those individuals must participate in any hearing of the appeal that involves direct participation by the student-athlete or other individuals representing the institution or the student.

**14.1.4.3 Student Responsibility, Relationship to Restoration of Eligibility.** A student-athlete is responsible for their involvement in a secondary or major violation of NCAA regulations (as defined in Bylaws 19.02.2.1 and 19.02.2.2), and the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may restore the eligibility of a student involved in any violation only when circumstances clearly warrant restoration. The eligibility of a student-athlete involved in a major violation shall not be restored other than through an exception authorized by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement in a unique case on the basis of specifically stated reasons.

#### **14.1.5 Name, Image and Likeness.**

**14.1.5.1 Application.** NCAA Bylaws, including prohibitions on pay-for-play and improper recruiting inducements, remain in effect, subject to the following:

- (a) For institutions in states without name, image and likeness laws or executive actions or with name, image and likeness laws or executive actions that have not yet taken effect, if an individual elects to engage in a name, image and likeness activity, the individual's eligibility for intercollegiate athletics will not be impacted by the application of Bylaw 14.
- (b) For institutions in states with name, image and likeness laws or executive actions with the force of law in effect, if an individual or member institution elects to engage in a name, image and likeness activity that is protected by law or executive order, the individual's eligibility for and/or the membership institution's full participation in NCAA athletics will not be impacted by the application of NCAA Bylaws unless the state law is invalidated or rendered unenforceable by operation of law.
- (c) Use of a professional services provider is also permissible for name, image and likeness activities, except as otherwise prohibited by state law or executive action with the force of law that has not been invalidated or rendered unenforceable by operation of law.

**14.1.5.2 Name, Image and Likeness Activities Related to Enrollment Decisions.** A name, image and likeness agreement or the payments associated with such an agreement may not be guaranteed or promised contingent on initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution (e.g., recruiting inducement).

**14.1.5.3 Monitoring for Compliance.** The NCAA will continue its normal regulatory operations but will not monitor name, image and likeness activities for compliance with state law.

**14.1.5.4 Reporting Requirements.** Individuals should report name, image and likeness activities consistent with state law and/or institutional requirements.

## **14.2 Academic Eligibility.**

**14.2.1 Individual.** An individual, for purposes of Bylaw 14.2, is any person of any age without reference to enrollment in an educational institution or status as a student-athlete.

**14.2.2 Admission.** A student-athlete shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless the student-athlete has been admitted as a regularly enrolled, degree-seeking student in accordance with the regular, published entrance requirements of that institution.

**14.2.2.1 Graduate Student Exception.** A nonmatriculating, nondegree seeking graduate student may represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, provided all other eligibility requirements are satisfied (e.g., enrolled full time, in good academic standing).

### **14.2.3 Full-Time Enrollment.**

**14.2.3.1 Requirement for Practice or Competition.** To be eligible for practice or competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies leading to a baccalaureate or equivalent degree as defined by the institution, which for purposes of this bylaw and its subsections shall not be less than 12-semester or -quarter hours, regardless of the institution's definition of a minimum full-time program of studies.

**14.2.3.1.1 Drop/Add Course.** A student-athlete no longer shall be considered enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies (after dropping a course that places the student below full-time status) when the dropped course becomes official in accordance with procedures determined by the institution for all students. A student-athlete who is adding a course to reach full-time status shall become eligible for practice and competition once the course has been approved by the appropriate department head (or designated representative) and submitted to the registrar.

**14.2.3.1.2 Withdrawal or Dismissal.** A student-athlete who withdraws or is dismissed from an institution is considered to be a prospective student-athlete eligible for recruitment by other NCAA institutions and may not continue to practice or compete with the original institution's team. (See Bylaw 13.1.1.2.)

**14.2.3.1.3 Noncredit Work.** Hours of noncredit work (including remedial courses) may be counted toward fulfilling the minimum full-time enrollment requirement, provided the noncredit work is given the same academic load value and is considered by the institution to be a requirement for the degree currently being pursued by the student-athlete.

**14.2.3.1.4 Concurrent Courses at Two Institutions.** Courses taken concurrently at a second institution may be counted toward meeting the minimum 12-hour enrollment requirement, provided:

- (a) The certifying institution officially recognizes the student-athlete's combined hours as full-time enrollment for a minimum of 12 hours; and
- (b) Courses taken at the second institution will be included on the student-athlete's transcript at the institution where the student-athlete is seeking the degree.

**14.2.3.1.5 Cooperative Educational Exchange Program.** A student-athlete may practice or compete for the certifying institution even though the student-athlete is enrolled in another institution in a cooperative educational exchange or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), provided:



- (a) The certifying institution considers the student-athlete to be regularly enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies; and
- (b) All academic coursework is placed on the student-athlete's transcript and accepted toward their undergraduate degree at the certifying institution.

**14.2.3.1.6 Nontraditional Courses.** Enrollment in a nontraditional course (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/virtual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) offered by the certifying institution may be used to satisfy the full-time enrollment requirement for competition, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The course is available to any student at the institution;
- (b) The student-athlete enrolls in the course in the same manner as is available to any student;
- (c) Enrollment in the course occurs within the institution's regular enrollment periods (preregistration or drop-add period) in accordance with the institution's academic calendar and applicable policies and procedures; and
- (d) The course is conducted during the institution's regular academic schedule (term time) in accordance with the institution's academic calendar and applicable policies and procedures.

**14.2.3.1.7 Exceptions.**

**14.2.3.1.7.1 Practice or Competition -- Before Initial Full-Time Enrollment.** To be eligible for practice or competition during the official vacation period immediately before initial enrollment, the student-athlete shall:

- (a) Have been accepted by the institution for enrollment in a regular, full-time program of studies at the time of the individual's participation;
- (b) No longer be enrolled in the previous educational institution(s); and
- (c) Be eligible under all institutional and NCAA requirements.

**14.2.3.1.7.2 Practice or Competition -- Eligibility Between Terms.** To be eligible for practice or competition that takes place between terms, the student-athlete shall:

- (a) Have been registered for the required minimum full-time program of studies (see Bylaw 14.2.3.1) at the conclusion of the term immediately preceding the date of competition, if the student-athlete is continuing enrollment; or

- (b) Be accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student for the regular term immediately after the date of competition, if the student-athlete is either continuing enrollment or beginning enrollment (see Bylaw 14.2.5).

**14.2.3.1.7.3 Practice or Competition -- Final Semester/Quarter.** A student-athlete with athletics eligibility remaining may compete or participate in organized practice sessions while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided the student-athlete is enrolled in the final semester or quarter of the baccalaureate program or a minor or undergraduate certificate program and the institution certifies that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete the degree, minor or certificate requirements. To qualify for this exception, a minor or undergraduate certificate program must be officially designated (pursuant to institutional policy) by the student-athlete before the beginning of the applicable term. Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree, minor or certificate requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

**14.2.3.1.7.3.1 Waivers.** The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall establish appropriate criteria for waiver requests seeking relief of the forfeiture of eligibility penalty.

**14.2.3.1.7.3.2 Practice or Competition -- Postseason.** The student-athlete granted eligibility to compete under this provision shall be eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after said semester or quarter, provided the student-athlete has not exhausted the 10 semesters/15 quarters for completion of the individual's four seasons of eligibility (see Bylaw 14.4.3). Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

**14.2.3.1.7.3.2.1 Waiver -- Postseason.** The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, may waive the 60-day requirement when an NCAA championship is conducted at the conclusion of the championship segment of the playing season but begins more than 60 days after the end of said term. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.1 for legislation related to the eligibility of student-athletes enrolled less than full time to receive institutional financial aid.)

**14.2.3.1.7.4 Final Term Before Experiential Learning Requirement.** A student-athlete may compete or practice while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies in the final semester or quarter of the student's baccalaureate degree program before participating in an experiential learning requirement (e.g.,

student teaching, internship, clinical, capstone project) in the following term, provided the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) all courses necessary to complete degree requirements as determined by the faculty of the institution, other than the experiential learning requirement. A student-athlete who uses this exception is not permitted to use the final semester/quarter exception the following semester or quarter.

**14.2.3.1.7.5 Practice or Competition -- Graduate Program.** A student-athlete may practice or compete while enrolled in a full-time graduate program as defined by the institution for all graduate students in that program (see Bylaw 14.2.4).

**14.2.3.1.7.6 Practice -- First Week of Class.** A student-athlete may practice, but may not compete, during the institution's first five days of classes, if the student-athlete is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA requirements.

**14.2.3.1.8 Waivers of the 12-Hour Requirement for Practice or Competition.**

**14.2.3.1.8.1 Practice or Competition -- Student-Athletes with Education-Impacting Disabilities.** The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the 12-hour requirement for a student-athlete when objective evidence demonstrates that an institution defines full-time enrollment for that student-athlete to be less than 12 hours to accommodate for the student-athlete's education-impacting disability.

**14.2.3.1.8.2 Practice or Competition -- Nontraditional Academic Calendars or Cooperative Educational Programs.** A student-athlete enrolled in an institution that determines enrollment hours on a basis other than traditional semester or quarter hours or that conducts a cooperative educational or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), may practice or compete, if at the time of practice or competition the student-athlete is enrolled for a comparable minimum academic program of studies as determined by the Academic Requirements Committee.

**14.2.3.1.8.3 Practice or Competition -- Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships or World Youth Championships.** The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the minimum full-time enrollment requirement for any participant in the junior or elite levels of the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships or World Youth Championships who, because of such participation, may lose eligibility for practice or competition in any sport.

**14.2.3.1.8.4 Practice -- U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee/National Governing Body -- Individual Sports or Rowing.** A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is not enrolled or who is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies or a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining, may participate on a regular basis in organized practice sessions that involve an individual sport or rowing, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The practice sessions take place only at the institution(s) the individual previously attended as an undergraduate or currently attends or previously attended as a graduate student, except that a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining may participate in practice sessions at an institution other than the one they previously attended;
- (b) The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or national governing body in the sport has recommended the individual's participation;
- (c) The individual does not participate in any coaching activities unless the institution designates the individual in the appropriate coaching limits;
- (d) In the case of a student-athlete with NCAA eligibility remaining in the sport, such participation occurs only during the academic year immediately before the Olympic or Paralympic Games; and
- (e) In the case of a former student-athlete, such participation shall be limited to the number of years that allows the individual to practice with the institution's team in preparation for two consecutive Olympic or Paralympic Games following exhaustion of eligibility or completion of degree, whichever is earlier. A student-athlete who has not graduated must be enrolled (full or part time) and making progress toward a degree.

**14.2.3.1.8.5 Practice -- U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee/National Governing Body -- Team Sports.** A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is not enrolled or who is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies or a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining, may participate on a regular basis in organized practice sessions that involve a team sport, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The practice sessions take place only at the institution(s) the individual previously attended as an undergraduate or currently attends or previously attended as a graduate student, except that a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining may participate in practice sessions at an institution other than the one they previously attended;
- (b) The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee or national governing body in the sport has recommended the individual's participation;

- (c) The individual does not participate in any coaching activities unless the institution designates the individual in the appropriate coaching limits;
- (d) The participation occurs only during the academic year immediately before the Olympic or Paralympic Games; and
- (e) In the case of a former student-athlete, such participation shall be limited to the number of years that allows the individual to practice with the institution's team in preparation for two consecutive Olympic or Paralympic Games following exhaustion of eligibility or completion of degree, whichever is earlier. A student-athlete who has not graduated must be enrolled (full or part time) and making progress toward a degree.

**14.2.3.1.8.5.1 Administration.** Waivers of Bylaw 14.2.3.1.8.4 or 14.2.3.1.8.5 shall be approved by the conference members of the Association or, in the case of independent institutions, by the Management Council. A member institution shall submit a waiver request that includes documentation that demonstrates that the conditions of Bylaw 14.2.3.1.8.4 or 14.2.3.1.8.5 have been met for each individual who wishes to participate in the institution's practice sessions.

**14.2.3.1.8.6 Practice and Competition -- All Other Full-Time Enrollment Waivers.** Unless otherwise specified under this bylaw, the Academic Requirements Committee may waive the 12-hour requirement for competition and practice.

**14.2.4 Graduate Student/Postbaccalaureate/Second Baccalaureate Participation.** A student-athlete who is enrolled in a graduate or professional school of the institution they previously attended as an undergraduate (regardless of whether the individual has received a United States baccalaureate degree or its equivalent), a student-athlete who is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or equivalent degree at the same institution, a student-athlete who has graduated and is continuing as a full-time student at the same institution while taking course work that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree as defined and documented by the institution, or a nonmatriculating, nondegree seeking graduate student who satisfies all eligibility requirements (e.g., enrolled full time, in good academic standing), may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining and such participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3 (see Bylaw 14.2.3.1.7.5).

**14.2.4.1 Transfer Exception.** A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program at an institution other than the institution they previously attended as an undergraduate may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining.

**14.2.4.1.1 Disciplinary Suspension.** A student who transfers from a collegiate institution and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or second

baccalaureate or equivalent degree program while the student is disqualified or suspended from the previous institution for disciplinary reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year of residence at the certifying institution.

**14.2.4.2 NCAA Championship Following Last Term of Eligibility.** A student-athlete who is eligible during the term in which degree work is completed (or is eligible as a graduate, per Bylaw 14.2.4) remains eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after the end of the term in which the student completes the requirements for the degree (or graduate eligibility). The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, may waive the 60-day requirement when an NCAA championship, postseason bowl game or National Invitation Tournament is conducted at the conclusion of the traditional playing season but begins more than 60 days after the end of said term.

**14.2.5 Change in Eligibility Status.** If a student-athlete's academic eligibility changes at the end of a quarter or semester, the student-athlete shall become eligible or ineligible to compete on the date their eligibility officially is certified by the appropriate institutional authority. In a case in which the student becomes eligible at the end of the term, the earliest date on which the student can become eligible to compete is the day after the date of the last scheduled examination listed in the institution's official calendar for the term that is ending. In a case in which the student becomes ineligible, the ineligibility shall become effective not later than the first day of classes of the following semester or quarter. In any case, if the student-athlete is academically eligible to compete at the time of the student-athlete's or the institution's first participation in an NCAA championship, they shall remain eligible for the remainder of the championship.

**14.2.5.1 Exception.**

**14.2.5.1.1 Institutions With Official Posting Date for Grades.** An institution whose official posting date for grades falls within three days of the first day of classes for the following academic term shall have three business days from the official date on which grades must be posted to certify that student-athletes have satisfactorily completed at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2). For those institutions that post grades on a rolling basis, the three-business day period shall begin within the first week of classes.

**14.2.5.1.2 Institutions With No Official Posting Date for Grades.** An institution whose official submission date for grades falls on or after the first day of classes for the following academic term shall have five business days from the date on which grades are submitted to certify that student-athletes have satisfactorily completed at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2).

**14.2.5.1.3 Certification of Eligibility.** During the three-business-day or five-business-day period, a student-athlete who is otherwise eligible under NCAA, conference and institutional requirements, shall be permitted to compete. If during the exception period, a student-athlete is certified ineligible, the student-athlete shall be declared immediately ineligible for competition. If the three-business-day or five-business-day period concludes prior to the certification of eligibility for any student-athlete, the student-athlete(s) shall be ineligible until such time as the student-athlete(s) is declared eligible for competition.

**14.2.6 Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice With Women's Teams.** A male student or male student-athlete (see Bylaw 17.02.9) may engage in practice sessions with women's teams under the following conditions:

- (a) Male students who practice with an institution's women's team must be verified as eligible for practice in accordance with Bylaw 14.2.3.1 and must have eligibility remaining under the ten-semester/15-quarter rule (see Bylaw 14.4.3.2) and undergo a mandatory medical examination per Bylaw 17.1.5. A male student who practices with an institution's women's team is not required to have an academic or amateurism certification from the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- (b) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students financial assistance, which includes room and board, tuition and fees, and books, in return for practicing with the women's team.
- (c) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students awards and benefits set forth in Bylaw 16.
- (d) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students room and board to remain on campus during a vacation period to participate in practice sessions with a women's team.
- (e) It is permissible for an institution to provide practice apparel to male students for the purpose of practicing with a women's team.

**14.2.7 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.** A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be considered a transfer student-athlete upon return to the certifying institution. A student-athlete participating in such a program shall not trigger the use of a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment. In sports other than basketball, a student-athlete shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in such a program. All eligibility regulations still apply.

#### **14.2.8 Freshman Academic Requirements.**

##### **14.2.8.1 General Principles.**

**14.2.8.1.1 High School Review Committee.** The High School Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the academic review of high schools and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a high school shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.4.2.)

**14.2.8.1.2 Student Records Review Committee.** The Student Records Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.5.2.)

**14.2.8.2 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers.**

**14.2.8.2.1 Qualifier.** A qualifier is defined as one who is a high school graduate and who has a minimum cumulative core-course grade-point average of 2.200 (based on a maximum 4.000) in a minimum of 16 academic courses. The 16 core courses shall include the following:

English	3 years
Mathematics	2 years
Natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered by the high school)	2 years
Additional courses in English, mathematics or natural or physical science	3 years
Social science	2 years
Additional academic courses [in any of the above areas or foreign language, philosophy or nondoctrinal religion (e.g., comparative religion) courses]	4 years

The record of the above courses and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or on a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office; and



**14.2.8.2.1.1 Exception -- Early Academic Certification.** A prospective student-athlete shall be certified as a qualifier, provided they have achieved a core-course grade-point average of 2.500 (based on a maximum of 4.000) in a minimum of 14 core courses on completion of six semesters (or the equivalent). The 14 core courses shall include three core courses in English, three in mathematics (at the level of Algebra I or higher), two in natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered at the high school) and six additional core courses in any NCAA core area. The record of the course and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using either an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office.

**14.2.8.2.1.1.1 Submission of Final Transcript(s).** An institution must submit a final high school transcript(s) (official or unofficial) to the NCAA Eligibility Center by November 15 following a student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment for any student-athlete who is certified as a qualifier pursuant to the early academic certification exception.

**14.2.8.2.1.2 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifier.** A student-athlete who enrolls in a Division II institution as an entering freshman with no previous full-time college attendance shall meet the academic requirements for a qualifier, as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center, and approved by the Board of Governors, and any applicable institutional and conference regulations, to be eligible for financial aid, practice and competition during the first academic year in residence.

**14.2.8.2.2 Partial Qualifier.** A partial qualifier is defined as a student who does not meet the requirements for a qualifier (see Bylaw [14.2.8.2.1](#)).

**14.2.8.2.2.1 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Partial Qualifier.** A student-athlete who enrolls in a Division II institution as an entering freshman with no previous full-time college attendance and who is a partial qualifier may receive institutional financial aid (see Bylaw [15.2.1](#)) based on institutional and conference regulations and may practice only on campus or at the institution's regular practice facility but may not compete during the first academic year in residence.

**14.2.8.2.2.2 Outside Competition -- Partial Qualifier.** A partial qualifier may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff); however, during the first year in residence, such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institutional club team or on an outside sports team.

**14.2.8.2.2.3 Seasons of Competition -- Partial Qualifier.** A partial qualifier shall not engage in more than four seasons of competition.

**14.2.8.2.2.4 Residence Requirement -- Partial Qualifier.** A partial qualifier must fulfill an academic year of residence to be eligible to compete and to practice away from the institution (see Bylaw 14.02.21 regarding the requirements that must be met to fulfill an academic year in residence).

**14.2.8.2.3 Core-Curriculum Requirements.** For purposes of meeting the core-curriculum requirement to establish eligibility at a member institution, a "core course" must meet all of the following criteria:

- (a) A course must be a recognized academic course and qualify for high school graduation credit in one or a combination of the following areas: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy;
- (b) A course must be considered college-preparatory by the high school. College-preparatory is defined for these purposes as any course that prepares a student academically to enter a four-year collegiate institution on graduation from high school;
- (c) A mathematics course must be at the level of Algebra I or higher-level mathematics course;
- (d) A course must be taught by a qualified instructor as defined by the appropriate academic authority (e.g., high school, school district or state agency with authority over such matters); and
- (e) A course must be taught at or above the high school's regular academic level (i.e., remedial, special education or compensatory courses shall not be considered core courses). However, the prohibition against the use of remedial or compensatory courses is not applicable to courses designed for students with education-impacting disabilities (see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.5).

**14.2.8.2.3.1 Core-Curriculum Time Limitation.** A student is permitted to use all core courses completed following the start of the ninth grade and prior to initial full-time enrollment at a collegiate institution as certified on the official transcript or by official correspondence.

**14.2.8.2.3.2 Nontraditional Courses.** Courses taught via the Internet, distance-learning, independent-study, individualized-instruction, correspondence and courses taught by similar means, may be used to satisfy NCAA core-course requirements, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) The course meets all requirements for a core course as defined in Bylaw 14.2.8.2.3;

- (b) The instructor and the student have ongoing access to one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;
- (c) The instructor and the student have regular interaction with one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;
- (d) The student's work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) is available for evaluation and validation;
- (e) Evaluation of the student's work is conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies;
- (f) The course includes a defined time period for completion; and
- (g) The course is acceptable for any student and is placed on the high school transcript.

**14.2.8.2.3.3 College Courses.** College courses may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements if accepted by the high school, provided the courses are accepted for any other student, meet all other requirements for core courses and are placed on the student's high school transcript.

**14.2.8.2.3.4 English as a Second Language Course.** It is permissible to use an advanced level English as a Second Language (ESL) course to satisfy a core-curriculum requirement, provided the course is qualitatively and quantitatively the same as the comparison course in the regular course offering and the course appears on the high school's list of approved core courses. Further, an advanced-level ESL course must be exclusively for ESL students and all students in the course must be at the same level.

**14.2.8.2.3.5 Courses for Students With Education-Impacting Disabilities.** High school courses for students with education-impacting disabilities may be used to fulfill the core-curriculum requirements, even if such courses appear to be taught at a level below the high school's regular academic instructional level (e.g., special education courses), if the high school principal submits a written statement to the NCAA Eligibility Center indicating that courses are substantially comparable, quantitatively and qualitatively, to similar core-course offerings in that academic discipline and the courses appear on the high school's list of approved core courses. Students with education-impacting disabilities still must complete the required core courses and achieve the minimum required grade-point average in the core curriculum. The fact that the title of a course includes a designation such as "remedial," "special education," "special needs," or other similar titles used for

courses designed for students with education-impacting disabilities does not, in and of itself, disqualify a course from satisfying core-curriculum requirements.

**14.2.8.2.3.6 Grade Value of Core Courses.** The following grade values are to be used in determining a student's grade-point average in the core courses: A = 4 quality points, B = 3 quality points, C = 2 quality points, D = 1 quality point. In determining the core-curriculum grade-point average, each grade earned in a course (including all numerical grades) must be converted to this 4.000 scale on an individual-course basis. Pluses or minuses within a grade level shall not receive greater or lesser quality points. A school's normal practice of weighting honors or advanced courses may be used to compute the quality points awarded in those courses and the cumulative grade-point average, provided a written statement verifying the grading policy accompanies the prospective student-athlete's official grade transcript. An honors or an advanced course shall receive not greater than 1.000 additional quality point (e.g., A = 5.000). In calculating the grade in a weighted honors or advanced course, if a high school does not assign quality points to its courses, quality points shall be added to each course before calculating the student's grade-point average and not added to a student's cumulative core-course grade-point average. The core-curriculum grade-point average may be calculated using the student's 16 best grades from courses that meet the distribution requirements of the core curriculum. Additional core courses (beyond the 16 required) may be used to meet the core-curriculum grade-point average, provided the distribution requirements are met.

**14.2.8.2.3.6.1 Grade-Point Average Computation.** In determining a student-athlete's eligibility, it is not permissible to round the student's high school grade-point average, regardless of the number of digits to which the computation is carried (e.g., a high school grade-point average of 1.9999 would not make a prospective student-athlete a partial qualifier).

**14.2.8.2.3.6.2 Multiple Grade-Point Average Calculations.** If a high school uses more than one method to compute cumulative grade-point averages for all of its students, the high school may use the method most beneficial to a prospective student-athlete, provided that under its normal procedures the high school actually computes (without any special request by the student or a member institution) a cumulative grade-point average, using that same method for each student at the high school.

**14.2.8.2.3.6.3 Multiple High School Attendance.** When a prospective student-athlete attends more than one high school, it is necessary for the high school from which the student graduated to provide the student's total high school grade-point average. Eligibility shall not be established solely on the basis of work accomplished at the high school from which the student graduated.

**14.2.8.2.3.7 Pass-Fail Grades.** Courses that are awarded pass-fail grades may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements. The NCAA Eligibility Center shall assign the course the lowest passing grade that the high school assigns for a pass-fail course.

**14.2.8.2.3.8 Repeat Courses.** A repeated course may be used only once to satisfy core-curriculum requirements. The best grade in that course may be used to calculate the grade-point average in the core curriculum.

**14.2.8.2.3.9 Multiple High School Attendance.** For a student-athlete who attends more than one high school, a Form 48-H (core-course form) and an official transcript from each high school the student-athlete attended must be used. However, the NCAA Eligibility Center may receive the official transcript from either the student-athlete's original high school or the high school from which the student-athlete graduated, or from an institution's admissions office.

**14.2.8.2.4 Early Admissions Program Waiver.** A waiver may be granted by the Academic Requirements Committee for a student who left high school after completion of the junior year or during the senior year to enter a member institution under an early admissions program (open to students solely on the basis of outstanding academic performance and promise), provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) For the last four semesters completed in high school, the student maintained a cumulative, minimum grade-point average of 3.500 (based on a maximum of 4.000) and ranked in the top 20 percent of the student's class; and
- (b) The student has met all the requirements of a qualifier except graduation from high school.

### **14.2.8.3 Determination of Freshman Eligibility.**

**14.2.8.3.1 Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete.** If a recruited or nonrecruited student-athlete reports for athletics participation before the high school core-curriculum grade-point average and test score have been certified, the student-athlete may practice, but not compete, for a maximum of 45 days, provided the student-athlete is enrolled full time or has been accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student. After this 45-day period, the student shall have been certified as a qualifier by the NCAA Eligibility Center to continue practicing or to compete, or as a partial qualifier to continue practicing.

**14.2.8.3.1.1 Effect of Violation.** A violation of Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2 in which the student-athlete is subsequently certified shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.7 but shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

**14.2.8.3.2 Equivalency Test/Diploma.** A prospective student-athlete who does not graduate from high school but completes a state high school equivalency test [e.g., General

Educational Development (GED)] and obtains a state high school equivalency diploma may satisfy the graduation requirement, provided the equivalency test is completed on or after the high school graduation date of the prospective student-athlete's class [as determined by their first year of enrollment in high school (ninth grade) or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility].

**14.2.8.3.3 Advanced Placement.** If the student-athlete is admitted with a minimum of 24-semester hours or a minimum of 36-quarter hours of advanced placement from a College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) examination (or from a similar proficiency examination) and/or concurrent high school/college credit without previous enrollment at a collegiate institution, the student-athlete shall be immediately eligible. Credits earned from extension or summer-session courses may not be counted in satisfaction of this requirement. A "similar proficiency examination" must be an advanced or higher level, nationally administered proficiency exam with a uniform grading scale that is taken after high school graduation.

**14.2.8.3.3.1 International Certification.** An institution shall use the NCAA Eligibility Center to determine whether a "similar proficiency examination" taken by an international student-athlete is an advanced or higher level, nationally administered proficiency exam with a uniform grading scale that is taken after high school graduation. In addition, the Eligibility Center shall certify the eligibility of an international student-athlete based on the number of advanced placement and concurrent high school/college credit hours accepted by the certifying institution.

**14.2.8.3.4 International Academic Standards.** A student from a foreign country shall satisfy the requirements outlined in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility and the test-score requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1-(b) to be certified as a qualifier.

**14.2.8.4 Notification of Initial-Eligibility Standards.** The NCAA Eligibility Center shall provide information regarding the initial-eligibility standards contained in Bylaw 14.2.8.2 to a prospective student-athlete and their parents or legal guardians after they have registered with the Eligibility Center.

**14.2.8.5 Initial-Eligibility Waivers.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all initial-eligibility requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of this regulation. The committee shall establish the process for granting such waivers and shall report at least annually to the Management Council and to the membership, the actions taken, in summary, aggregate form.

#### **14.2.9 Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.**

**14.2.9.1 Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall maintain progress toward a

baccalaureate or equivalent degree at that institution. (See Bylaw 7.3.1.5.5 regarding the obligations of members to publish their progress-toward-degree requirements for student-athletes.)

**14.2.9.1.1 Exchange Student.** The eligibility of an exchange student shall be based on satisfactory completion of at least:

- (a) Nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during the preceding regular academic term in which the student has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution (see Bylaw **14.2.9.3.2**);
- (b) Credit hours earned during the regular academic year as set forth in Bylaw **14.2.9.3.3**;
- (c) Credit hours earned for the annual credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw **14.2.9.3.4**; and
- (d) Cumulative minimum grade-point average as set forth in Bylaw **14.2.9.3.5**.

**14.2.9.1.2 Temporary Student.** A student-athlete having the status of temporary, transient or exchange student shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless such status is specifically allowed and governed by provisions adopted by the membership.

**14.2.9.2 Eligibility for Financial Aid and Practice.** Eligibility for institutional financial aid and practice during each academic year after a student-athlete's initial year in residence or after the student-athlete has used one season of eligibility in a sport shall be based upon the rules of the institution and the conference(s), if any, of which the institution is a member. See Bylaw **14.2.3** for additional rules regarding eligibility for practice.

#### **14.2.9.3 Eligibility for Competition.**

**14.2.9.3.1 Good Academic Standing.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in good academic standing, as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students at the institution, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a member. A student-athlete shall maintain a grade-point average that places the individual in good academic standing, as established by the institution for all students who are at an equivalent stage of progress toward a degree. A student-athlete who is not in good academic standing is not eligible for competition even if the individual satisfies the progress-toward-degree requirements. The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution.

**14.2.9.3.2 Term-By-Term Credit-Hour Requirement.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must earn nine-

semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term in which the student-athlete has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution.

**14.2.9.3.2.1 Application of Rule to Transfer Student.** For purposes of certifying eligibility for a transfer student from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2, the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours must be transferable degree credit. (See Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3)

**14.2.9.3.2.2 Calculation of Credit Hours.** During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the term-by-term credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program.

**14.2.9.3.2.2.1 Exception -- Final Academic Year of Degree Program.** A student-athlete who is in the final academic year (final two semesters or three quarters) of their designated degree program may use credit hours acceptable toward any of the institution's degree programs to satisfy the nine-semester or eight-quarter hour requirement per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.2, provided the institution certifies, through review by appropriate academic officials, that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete degree requirements at the end of the two semesters or three quarters. Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during the final two semesters or three quarters and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

**14.2.9.3.2.2.1.1 Waivers.** The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall establish appropriate criteria for waiver requests seeking relief of the forfeiture of eligibility penalty.

**14.2.9.3.3 Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term or since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.

**14.2.9.3.3.1 Regular Academic Year.** For purposes of Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3, the regular academic year consists of the time beginning with the opening of the institutions' fall term and concluding with the institution's spring commencement exercises.



**14.2.9.3.3.2 Application of Rule.** The following student-athletes are subject to the credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3: *(Adopted: 1/18/14 effective 8/1/16 for certifications of progress toward degree for fall 2016 and thereafter)*

- (a) A midyear transfer student-athlete;
- (b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the institution for at least one academic year; or
- (c) A student-athlete who has used one season of eligibility in any sport at the certifying institution.

**14.2.9.3.3.2.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee.** A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) is not subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3 for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution. In subsequent years, the student-athlete's completion of the 18-semester or 27-quarter hour requirement shall be certified prior to the start of each academic year based on the student-athlete's record since the beginning of the previous fall term.

**14.2.9.3.3.3 Calculation of Credit Hours.** During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.

**14.2.9.3.3.4 Part-Time Enrollment.** Credit hours earned during a term in which a student-athlete is enrolled less than full-time may be used to satisfy the 18-semester/27-quarter hour requirement only if such credits are combined with credits earned during a term that immediately precedes or immediately follows a term in which the student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student. Credits earned during a part-time term may be completed at an institution other than the certifying institution.

**14.2.9.3.4 Annual Credit Hour Requirement.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must earn 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit during any year in which the student-athlete is enrolled full time in at least one academic term. A student-athlete may satisfy this requirement based on the student-athlete earning:

- (a) 24-semester or 36-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term;
- (b) 24-semester or 36-quarter hours since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters; or
- (c) 48-semester or 72-quarter hours during the first two years of collegiate enrollment (the certifying institution's first four semesters or six quarters following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment in a collegiate institution).

(Note: A student-athlete who does not enroll in a collegiate institution for a full academic year following their initial year of collegiate enrollment is considered to be enrolled in their second year of collegiate enrollment upon the next enrollment in a regular academic term at a collegiate institution.)

**14.2.9.3.4.1 Application of Rule.** The following student-athletes are subject to annual credit-hour requirements:

- (a) A midyear transfer student-athlete;
- (b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the institution for at least one academic year; or
- (c) A student-athlete who has used one season of eligibility in any sport at the certifying institution.

**14.2.9.3.4.1.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee.** A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) shall be subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4 for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution; however, the annual credit hours may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during the initial regular academic year of attendance. (See Bylaw 14.2.9.3.8.2)

**14.2.9.3.4.2 Academic Year in Residence.** The definition of "year in residence" for purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is subject to the annual credit-hour requirement is based on full-time enrollment and attendance during any portion of a term in an academic year, except that when a student-athlete is granted a medical-absence waiver per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.9.1 during the first year of academic residence, that term is not counted in determining whether the student-athlete has been in residence at the certifying institution for one academic year.

**14.2.9.3.4.3 Calculation of Credit Hours.** During the student-athlete's first four semesters or six quarters of collegiate enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate

enrollment, credits used to meet the annual credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) may be used to satisfy the academic credit requirements of this regulation.

**14.2.9.3.4.4 Regaining Eligibility.** A student-athlete who does not meet the 24-semester or 36-quarter credit-hour requirement since the beginning of the previous fall term, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully completing 24-semester or 36-quarter hours during the previous two semesters or three quarters.

**14.2.9.3.5 Fulfillment of Minimum Grade-Point Average Requirements.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must achieve a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of each fall term. The eligibility of a student-athlete who does not satisfy the grade-point average requirement prior to the fall term may be recertified prior to the next regular academic term.

**14.2.9.3.5.1 Application of Rule.** The following student-athletes are subject to minimum grade-point average requirements:

- (a) A midyear transfer student-athlete from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution who has completed an academic term in residence;
- (b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year; or
- (c) A student-athlete who has used a season of eligibility in a sport at the certifying institution.

**14.2.9.3.5.1.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee or Transfer Student.** The provisions of Bylaw 14.2.9.3.5 shall be applicable to the eligibility of a midyear enrollee or transfer student from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution in the fall term following their initial enrollment at the certifying institution.

**14.2.9.3.5.2 Academic Year in Residence.** The definition of "year in residence" for purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is subject to the annual grade-point average requirement is based on full-time enrollment and attendance during any portion of a term in an academic year, except that if a student-athlete is granted a medical-absence waiver per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.9.1 during the first year of academic residence, that term is not counted in determining whether the student-athlete has been in residence at the certifying institution for one academic year.

**14.2.9.3.5.3 Calculation of Minimum Grade-Point Average.** A student-athlete must meet the minimum cumulative grade-point average at the certifying institution based on the method of calculation used by the institution for calculating cumulative grade-point averages for all students, and the calculation shall include only course work normally counted by the certifying institution in calculating the cumulative grade-point average for graduation (regardless of whether an institution requires multiple minimum grade-point averages for graduation).

**14.2.9.3.5.4 Applicable Credit Hours.** All credit hours (e.g., part time, transfer, advanced placement) that are accepted and appear on the student-athlete's transcript at the certifying institution shall be used in determining the minimum grade-point average requirements.

**14.2.9.3.5.5 Regaining Eligibility.** A student-athlete who does not meet the minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of a fall term, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully earning a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000.

**14.2.9.3.6 Designation of Degree Program.** A student-athlete shall designate a program of studies leading toward a specific baccalaureate degree at the certifying institution by the beginning of the third year of enrollment (fifth semester or seventh quarter) and thereafter shall make progress toward that specific degree. This provision shall be applicable to the eligibility not only of a continuing student, but also of a transfer student from a four-year or two-year collegiate institution who is entering their third year of collegiate enrollment, even if the student has not yet completed an academic year in residence or used a season of eligibility in a sport at the certifying institution. An institution shall not incur a violation if a student-athlete fails to designate a degree program prior to their third year of enrollment (fifth semester or seventh quarter), provided the student-athlete designates a degree prior to competing. Designation of a specific baccalaureate degree program may be accomplished by:

- (a) Formal enrollment by the student-athlete in a specific baccalaureate degree program; or
- (b) Approval by an appropriate academic official (who must not be an academic adviser/counselor employed by the athletics department) of the program leading to the specific baccalaureate degree that the student-athlete is pursuing.

**14.2.9.3.6.1 Documentation of Degree Program Designation.** If the designation is in accordance with Bylaw 14.2.9.3.6-(a), the official enrollment records of the institution shall constitute the documentation of the program against which progress toward degree under this regulation shall be measured. If the designation is in accordance with Bylaw 14.2.9.3.6-(b), the record of the degree program designation, approved by the appropriate academic official, shall constitute that documentation. For purposes of certifying eligibility for competition, an appropriate

academic official shall affirm in writing the number of credit hours applicable to the designated degree program that have been completed satisfactorily. The institution's records for all student-athlete degree program designations and progress-toward-degree evaluations shall be retained for inspection (on request) by an authorized representative of the NCAA.

#### **14.2.9.3.7 Regulations for Administration of Progress Toward Degree.**

**14.2.9.3.7.1 Nontraditional Terms.** An institution that determines registration other than on a traditional semester- or quarter-hour basis shall submit a statement describing the progress-toward-degree requirements applicable to its student-athletes for approval by the Academic Requirements Committee.

**14.2.9.3.7.2 Credit Hours Earned Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment at the Certifying Institution.** Credit hours earned at another institution before initial enrollment at the certifying institution may not be used to satisfy progress-toward-degree requirements. In the first year of collegiate enrollment [or during the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4-(c) to satisfy the annual credit hour requirement], this restriction does not apply to credit hours earned while a student was enrolled as a high school student (e.g., courses that qualify as high school and college credit). Such credit hours shall not be used to meet the required minimum number of credit hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3).

**14.2.9.3.7.3 Advanced-Placement Tests/Credit by Examination.** Credit received through advanced-placement tests or by examination or International Baccalaureate Program examinations may be used by a student-athlete to meet the minimum progress-toward-degree requirements, provided the subject for which the examination is an alternative is offered by the institution as acceptable degree credit. If such credit was earned while the student-athlete was enrolled in high school, it may be used to meet both initial-eligibility and progress-toward-degree requirements in the first year of collegiate enrollment [or in the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4-(c) to satisfy the annual credit-hour requirement], provided the credit was earned prior to high school graduation. However, such credit, if earned prior to initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, may not be used to meet the required minimum number of hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw 14.2.9.3.3).

**14.2.9.3.7.4 Remedial, Tutorial or Noncredit Courses.** Remedial, tutorial or noncredit courses may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 only if such courses meet all of the following conditions:

- (a) The courses must be considered by the institution to be prerequisites for specific courses acceptable for any degree program;

- (b) The courses must be given the same weight as others in the institution in determining the student-athlete's status for full-time enrollment;
- (c) Noncredit courses may not exceed the maximum institutional limit for such courses in any baccalaureate degree program (or the student-athlete's specific baccalaureate degree program once a program has been designated); and
- (d) Credit in such courses shall not exceed 12-semester or 18-quarter hours, and the courses must be taken during the student-athlete's first academic year of collegiate enrollment.

**14.2.9.3.7.5 Incomplete Grades.** A student-athlete who receives an incomplete grade in a course may use the course in question to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The incomplete grade must have been removed and recorded in accordance with the institution's regulations applicable to all students;
- (b) Such a course may be counted only once after a grade has been achieved that is acceptable to the institution for determining progress-toward-degree; and
- (c) In the case of no institutional policy, the course with the acceptable grade shall be counted either during the term in which the student initially enrolled in the course or during the term in which the incomplete grade was removed and acceptable credit was awarded.

**14.2.9.3.7.6 Repeated Courses.** Credit for courses that are repeated may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 only under the following conditions:

- (a) A course repeated due to an unsatisfactory initial grade may be used only once and only after it has been satisfactorily completed;
- (b) Credit for a course that may be taken several times (e.g., a physical education activities course) shall be limited by institutional regulations; and
- (c) Credits earned in courses that may be taken several times may not exceed the maximum institutional limit for credits of that type for any baccalaureate degree program (or for the student-athlete's specific baccalaureate degree program once a program has been designated).

**14.2.9.3.7.7 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted for Degree Credit After Change of Degree Program.** A student-athlete who changes their designated degree program after their fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment may

comply with the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 if:

- (a) The change in programs is documented appropriately by the institution's academic authorities;
- (b) The credits earned before the change are acceptable toward a degree previously sought; and
- (c) The credits earned from the time of the change are acceptable toward the new desired degree.

**14.2.9.3.7.8 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Major.** A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program with an identified major may not use a course to fulfill the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 even if the course fulfills an elective component of the student-athlete's degree program, if the student-athlete ultimately must repeat the course to fulfill the requirements of the student's major.

**14.2.9.3.7.9 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Minor.** A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program may use credits earned in a minor to fulfill the credit-hour requirements for meeting progress toward degree if the minor is a required element for all students to obtain the original baccalaureate degree. A student-athlete who has designated a voluntary or optional minor (i.e., a minor that is not a required element of the original baccalaureate degree program for all students) may use a maximum of six credit hours per academic term (regular academic year, summer) earned in the minor to fulfill the credit-hour requirements for meeting progress toward degree.

**14.2.9.3.7.10 Nontraditional Courses From Another Institution.** Nontraditional courses (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/virtual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) completed at an institution other than the one in which a student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student may be used in determining progress toward degree, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The course is available to any student at the certifying institution;
- (b) The student-athlete enrolls in the course in the same manner as is available to any student; and
- (c) Enrollment in the course occurs within the offering institution's regular enrollment periods (preregistration or drop-add period) in accordance with the institution's academic calendar and applicable policies and procedures.

**14.2.9.3.7.11 Cooperative Educational, Work Experience and Study-Abroad Programs.** A student-athlete shall not be required to complete nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term of full-time enrollment during any term or terms of enrollment in a cooperative educational or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching) or an institutionally approved study-abroad program.

**14.2.9.3.7.11.1 Adjustment of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.** A student-athlete who participates in a cooperative educational, work experience or an institutionally approved study abroad program, may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance in traditional coursework.

**14.2.9.3.8 Exceptions to Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.**

**14.2.9.3.8.1 Missed Term Exception.** One time during a student-athlete's entire period of collegiate enrollment, the provisions of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance, if the student-athlete misses a complete term or consecutive terms during an academic year, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The student-athlete did not attend class during a regular academic term while enrolled in a full-time program of studies;
- (b) The student-athlete engaged in no outside competition in the sport during the academic term or terms in which the student was not in attendance;
- (c) The student-athlete was eligible for enrollment during the student's absence; and
- (d) At the time of certification, the student-athlete has fulfilled the progress-toward-degree requirements (per Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4) for the terms in which the student was in attendance. It is not permissible to use this one-time exception during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution in order to maintain eligibility during the second year in residence. Hours earned while enrolled as a part-time student during the "missed term" may not be counted in meeting the progress-toward-degree requirement.

**14.2.9.3.8.2 Midyear Enrollment Exception.** For student-athletes entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer), the annual credit hours required per Bylaw 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during the initial regular academic year of attendance.



**14.2.9.3.8.3 Nonrecruited, Nonparticipant Exception.** A student-athlete may qualify for an exception to the application of the progress-toward-degree regulations for the initial season of eligibility, if the student has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year; was not recruited; has not received athletically related financial assistance; has never practiced or participated in intercollegiate athletics, except that a student may have participated in limited preseason tryouts; and is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA rules. The student-athlete's eligibility in future seasons would be governed by the progress-toward-degree requirements, which would be applied from the beginning of the first term the student began participation.

**14.2.9.3.8.4 Graduate Student Exception.** A student-athlete who is a graduate student or a student-athlete who graduates and returns for a second baccalaureate degree or who is taking coursework that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree who is otherwise eligible for regular-season competition shall be exempt from the progress-toward-degree requirements.

**14.2.9.3.8.5 Two-Year Non-Participation or Minimal Participation Exception.** A student-athlete may qualify for an exception to the application of the progress-toward-degree regulations if, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student-athlete has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in any sport beyond a 14-consecutive calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution; and is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA rules. The 14-consecutive calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student-athlete's initial collegiate enrollment. The student-athlete's eligibility in future seasons would be governed by the progress-toward-degree requirements, which would be applied from the beginning of the first term the student-athlete began participation.

**14.2.9.3.9 Waivers of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall establish appropriate criteria for waivers of this legislation. Such waivers shall be administered by the conference members of the Association or, in the case of an independent institution, by the Academic Requirements Committee. Waivers of the progress-toward-degree requirements may be granted under the following conditions:

**14.2.9.3.9.1 Medical Absence Waiver.** The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student misses a term or is unable

to complete a term as a full-time student as a result of an injury or illness. Such an exception may be granted only when circumstances clearly supported by appropriate medical documentation establish that a student-athlete is unable to attend a collegiate institution as a full-time student as a result of an incapacitating physical injury or illness involving the student-athlete or a member of the student-athlete's immediate family. Credits earned by the student-athlete during the term to which the waiver applies may not be used in determining progress toward degree. A Division II conference office has the authority to administer medical absence waivers for terms that occurred at an NCAA institution prior to a student-athlete's enrollment at a member institution within the conference.

**14.2.9.3.9.2 International Competition Waiver.** The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws 14.2.9.3.2, 14.2.9.3.3 and 14.2.9.3.4 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student is not enrolled for a term or terms or is unable to complete a term as a result of participation in the Pan American, Parapan American, Olympic, Paralympic, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) or World University Championships (including final Olympic or Paralympic tryouts and the officially recognized training program that directly qualifies participants for those tryouts). This waiver provision may be applied to not more than two semesters or three quarters.

**14.2.9.3.10 Olympic or Paralympic Games Waiver.** The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the progress-toward-degree requirements for any participant in the Olympic or Paralympic Games who, because of such participation, may lose eligibility for practice and competition in any sport.

**14.2.9.3.11 Student-Athletes With Education-Impacting Disabilities Waiver.** The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the progress-toward-degree requirements for a student-athlete when objective evidence demonstrates that the institution has defined full-time enrollment for that student-athlete to be less than 12 hours to accommodate for the student's education-impacting disability.

**14.2.9.3.12 Additional Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all other progress-toward-degree requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations. The committee shall establish the process for granting such waivers and shall report at least annually to the Management Council and to the membership, the actions taken in summary, aggregate form.

#### **14.2.10 Academic Misconduct.**

**14.2.10.1 Institutional Staff Member.** For purposes of Bylaw 14, an institutional staff member is any individual, excluding a student employee, who performs work for the institution or the athletics department, regardless of whether they receive compensation for such work.

**14.2.10.1.1 Student Employee.** For purposes of Bylaw 14, a student employee is an institutional staff member if:

- (a) They have institutional responsibilities to provide academic services to student-athletes; or
- (b) They engage in academic misconduct or provides impermissible academic assistance at the direction of a nonstudent employee, an institutional staff member per Bylaw 14.2.10.1.1-(a) or a representative of the institution's athletics interests.

**14.2.10.2 Pre-Enrollment.**

**14.2.10.2.1 Pre-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.** A prospective student-athlete, student-athlete, representative of athletics interests or a current or former institutional staff member shall not:

- (a) Arrange for a false or inaccurate academic record (e.g., courses, grades, credits, transcripts, test scores) for a prospective student-athlete; or
- (b) Provide false, inaccurate or incomplete information to the NCAA or an institution regarding a prospective student-athlete's academic record.

**14.2.10.3 Policies and Procedures.** An institution must:

- (a) Have written institutional policies and procedures regarding academic misconduct applicable to the general student-body, including student-athletes. The policies and procedures must be approved through the institution's normal process for approving such policies and must be kept on file or be accessible on the institution's website.
- (b) Investigate and adjudicate alleged academic misconduct in accordance with established policies regardless of whether the misconduct is reported to the NCAA or whether the student-athlete acted alone or in concert with others.

**14.2.10.3.1 Exception.** An institution may establish a policy that permits an expedited investigation and adjudication of academic misconduct by a student-athlete, provided other applicable policies and procedures are observed and the policy for expedited review is approved through the institution's normal process for approving such policies and is approved by the institution's president or chancellor (or their designee). Further, the policy that permits an expedited review must be kept on file or must be accessible on the institution's website.

**14.2.10.4 Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.**

**14.2.10.4.1 Student-Athlete.** A student-athlete shall not be involved in:

- (a) Academic misconduct involving a current or former institutional staff member or representative of athletics interests;

- (b) Academic misconduct, without the involvement of a current or former institutional staff member or representative of athletics interests, that results in:
  - (1) An erroneous declaration of eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics and the student-athlete subsequently competes for the institution while ineligible;
  - (2) An erroneous declaration of eligibility to receive financial aid and the student-athlete subsequently receives financial aid while ineligible; or
- (c) Academic misconduct involving the alteration or falsification of a student-athlete's transcript or academic record.

**14.2.10.4.2 Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests.** A current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests shall not be involved (with or without knowledge of the student-athlete) in:

- (a) Academic misconduct related to a student-athlete; or
- (b) The alteration or falsification of a student-athlete's transcript or academic record.

**14.2.10.4.3 Impermissible Academic Assistance – Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests.** A current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests shall not provide impermissible academic assistance to a student-athlete (see Bylaw 14.02.11).

**14.2.10.4.3.1 Application.** If an institution determines, pursuant to its policies and procedures, that academic misconduct has occurred, a violation of Bylaw 14.2.12.3.3 shall not be cited by the institution or through an enforcement investigation. If an institution determines, pursuant to its policies and procedures, that academic misconduct has not occurred, the conduct in question may still constitute a violation of Bylaw 14.2.12.3.3.

### **14.3 Transfer Regulations.**

**14.3.1 Residence Requirement -- General Principle.** A student who transfers (see Bylaw 14.3.2) to a member institution from any collegiate institution is required to complete one full academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.21) at the certifying institution before being eligible to compete for or to receive travel expenses from the member institution (see Bylaw 16.8.1), unless the student satisfies the applicable transfer requirements or receives an exception or waiver as set forth in this bylaw.

**14.3.1.1 Disciplinary Suspension.** A student (including a student enrolling in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program per Bylaw 14.2.4.1) who transfers to any NCAA institution from a collegiate institution while the student is disqualified or suspended from the previous institution for disciplinary

reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year of residence at the certifying institution.

**14.3.1.2 Outside Competition -- Partial Qualifier.** A two-year college transfer student who is a partial qualifier and does not meet the applicable transfer requirements may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff), but such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institution's club team or an outside sports team during the first academic year in residence. A four-year college transfer student who is a partial qualifier and who has not completed an academic year in residence may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff), but such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institution's club team or an outside sports team during the first academic year in residence.

**14.3.1.3 NCAA Championship Eligibility.** A transfer student who is required to fulfill an academic year of residence shall not be eligible to participate in any NCAA championship that occurs during the vacation period immediately following the academic year of residence.

**14.3.1.4 Foreign Institution Transfers.** A transfer student from a foreign collegiate institution (college, university or two-year college) is subject to the one-year residence requirement set forth in Bylaw 14.3.5.1 (see Bylaw 14.3.5.3.2 regarding the exchange student exception).

**14.3.2 Conditions Affecting Transfer Status.** A transfer student is an individual who transfers from a collegiate institution after having met any one of the following conditions at that institution:

- (a) The student attended a class or classes in any quarter or semester in which the student was enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies, even if the enrollment was on a provisional basis and the student was later determined by the institution not to be admissible;
- (b) The student is or was enrolled in an institution in a minimum full-time program of studies in a night school that is considered to have regular terms (semesters or quarters) the same as the institution's day school, and the student is or was considered by the institution to be a regularly matriculated student;
- (c) The student attended a branch school that does not conduct an intercollegiate athletics program, but the student had been enrolled in another collegiate institution before attendance at the branch school;
- (d) The student attended a branch school that conducted an intercollegiate athletics program and transfers to any institution, including the parent institution;

- (e) The student attended a second campus of an institution that conducted an intercollegiate athletics program and transfers to any institution, including the parent institution.
- (f) The student reported for a regular squad practice [including countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) that occur prior to certification per Bylaws 14.1.1.5.1 and 14.3.4.5.7], announced by the institution through any member of its athletics department staff, before the beginning of any quarter or semester, as certified by the athletics director. Participation only in picture-day activities would not constitute "regular" practice;
- (g) The student participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in a given sport even though the student was enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies; or
- (h) The student received athletically related institutional financial aid while attending a summer term, summer school or summer-orientation program (see Bylaw 15.2.1.1).

**14.3.3 Conditions Not Constituting Transfer Status.** Unless otherwise covered by conditions set forth in Bylaw 14.3.2, a student-athlete is not considered a transfer under the following enrollment conditions:

**14.3.3.1 Summer School, Extension Courses or Night School.** The student has been enrolled in or attended classes only in a summer school, extension course or night school, unless the night school is considered by the institution to be a regular term (semester or quarter) the same as its day school, the student is enrolled for a minimum full-time load in this regular night term, and the student is considered by the institution to be a regularly enrolled student.

**14.3.3.2 Branch School.** The student has been enrolled in or attended classes only in a branch school, provided the branch school does not conduct an intercollegiate athletics program. If the branch school conducts an intercollegiate athletics program, the student shall be considered a transfer if they enroll at the parent institution directly from the branch school. (For definition of "branch school," see Bylaw 14.3.3.2.)

**14.3.3.3 Academic Exchange Program.** The student participates in a regular academic exchange program between two four-year institutions that requires a participant to complete a specified period of time at each institution, and the program provides for the student-athlete to receive at least two baccalaureate or equivalent degrees at the conclusion of this joint academic program.

**14.3.3.4 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.** The student participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities and returns to the certifying institution.

**14.3.3.5 Service Academies.** A student who has attended as a freshman (plebe) only in the official summer-enrollment program of one of the four national service academies.

**14.3.4 Two-Year College Transfers.** A student who transfers to a member institution from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program must complete an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.21) unless the student meets the following eligibility requirements applicable to the division of which the certifying institution is a member. (See Bylaw 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

**14.3.4.1 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Graduation From Two-year College.** A transfer student from a two-year college who has graduated from the two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete has completed at least two semesters or three quarters (excluding summer sessions) of enrollment as a full-time student at the two-year college; and
- (b) At least 25 percent of the credit hours used to fulfill the student's academic degree requirements are earned at the two-year college that awards the degree per Bylaw 14.3.4.5.4 (see Bylaw 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes).

**14.3.4.1.1 Application.**

- (a) **Transfer Never Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has never attended a four-year institution as a full-time student, then the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and academic degree(s) from any two-year college(s) attended shall be considered.
- (b) **Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during their academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and academic degree(s) earned at the two-year college(s) after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college (e.g., '2-4-2-4 transfer') shall be considered for purposes of meeting the requirements of Bylaw 14.3.4.5.1.

**14.3.4.1.2 Exception -- Previous Four-Year College Attendance -- Graduation After One Semester or Quarter.** A student who transfers from a four-year college to a two-year college and then to the certifying institution is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during their first year at the certifying institution, provided the student:

- (a) Attended the last two-year college as a full-time student for only one semester or one quarter; and
- (b) Graduated from that two-year college.

**14.3.4.2 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Qualifier With No Four-Year College Attendance and Only One Term of Attendance at a Two-Year College.** A transfer student from a two-year college who was a qualifier (per Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1), has not previously attended a four-year collegiate institution and has only attended a two-year college for one academic term (semester or quarter), is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete has attended the two-year college as a full-time student for only one semester or one quarter (excluding summer sessions);
- (b) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution for the full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year college; and
- (c) The student-athlete has presented a minimum grade-point average of 2.200 earned in transferable degree credit (see Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3.2).

**14.3.4.2.1 Use of Physical Education Activity Courses.** Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements.

**14.3.4.2.2 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid.** Qualifiers who do not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.3.4.2 or 14.3.4.3 may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year of residence.

**14.3.4.3 Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers.** A transfer student from a two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete has completed at least two semesters or three quarters (excluding summer sessions) of enrollment as a full-time student at the two-year college;
- (b) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate



degree program at the certifying institution for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year college;

- (c) The student-athlete has satisfactorily completed the following transferable credit-hour requirements:

- (1) Six semester or eight quarter hours of English;
- (2) Three semester or four quarter hours of math; and
- (3) Three semester or four quarter hours of natural or physical science;

Remedial credit hours may not be used to satisfy these requirements. A transfer student may use transferable English, math and science credits earned while enrolled full time or part time at a previous two-year or four-year institution to satisfy these requirements.

- (d) The student-athlete has presented a minimum grade-point average of 2.200 earned in transferable degree credit (see Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3.2).

**14.3.4.3.1 Use of Physical Education Activity Courses.** Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements.

**14.3.4.3.2 Application.**

- (a) **Transfer Never Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If a two-year college transfer has never attended a four-year institution as a full-time student, then the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and the transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) from any two-year college(s) attended shall be considered.
- (b) **Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student.** If the two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during their academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) earned at the two-year college(s) attended after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college shall be considered for purposes of meeting the requirements of Bylaw 14.3.4.3-(a), -(b) and -(d).

**14.3.4.3.3 Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid – Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers.** A two-year college transfer who does not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.3.4.3 may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year in residence.

**14.3.4.4 Subvarsity Competition.** A transfer from a two-year college who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.3.4.1, 14.3.4.2 or 14.3.4.3 shall be eligible to compete only at the subvarsity level at the certifying institution. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a two-year college who was a partial qualifier and who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.3.4.1 or 14.3.4.3 shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first year in residence at the certifying institution.

**14.3.4.5 Two-Year College Transfer Regulations.** The following regulations shall be applied in administering the eligibility requirements for two-year college transfers.

**14.3.4.5.1 Previous Enrollment at Two-Year Institution.** The two-year college transfer requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.3.4 apply to all two-year college transfers regardless of whether the student-athlete attended one or more four-year colleges prior to their full-time enrollment at the two-year institution.

**14.3.4.5.2 Credit Earned at Four-Year Institution.** If a student-athlete attends a two-year college and, before regular enrollment at the certifying institution, attains additional credits as a part-time student in a four-year collegiate institution, the hours accumulated at the four-year institution may be used by the certifying institution in determining the student-athlete's eligibility under the credit-hour requirement of the two-year college transfer provisions, provided:

- (a) These hours are accepted by the two-year college and are placed on the transcript or other official document by the two-year college from which the student-athlete transfers before the date of initial regular enrollment at the certifying institution. Any official document (other than the student's transcript) used by the two-year college for this purpose includes the official seal of the two-year college, is signed by the appropriate academic official of the two-year college and is forwarded directly from the two-year college to the appropriate admissions official of the certifying institution; or
- (b) Prior approval by the appropriate academic official of the two-year college was obtained by the student, granting permission to satisfactorily complete hours as a part-time student at a four-year collegiate institution before the date of initial regular enrollment at the certifying institution. Acceptance of approved hours must be in accordance with the transfer policies and procedures of both the two-year college and the certifying institution.

**14.3.4.5.3 Determination of Transferable Degree Credit.** For the purpose of determining transferable degree credit, the institution may count those courses accepted as degree credit in any of its colleges, schools or departments.

**14.3.4.5.3.1 Transferable Credit, Unacceptable Grade.** Credit hours for courses with grades not considered acceptable for transferable degree credit for all students at an institution shall not be counted in determining whether the transfer requirement for total number of hours is satisfied.

**14.3.4.5.3.2 Calculation of Grade-Point Average for Transferable Credit.** Grades earned in all courses that are normally transferable to an institution shall be considered in determining the qualitative grade-point average for meeting transfer requirements, regardless of the grade earned or whether such grade makes the course unacceptable for transferable degree credit. Only the last grade earned in a course that has been repeated shall be included in the grade-point-average calculation.

**14.3.4.5.4 Academic Degree.** In order to satisfy the two-year-college graduation requirement for eligibility immediately on transfer from a two-year college to a member institution, a student-athlete must receive an associate or equivalent degree in an academic, rather than a vocational or technical, curriculum. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to determine whether a two-year college degree is academic, rather than vocational or technical, in nature.

**14.3.4.5.5 Transfer to Four-Year College Prior to Completion of Requirements.** The requirements set forth in Bylaw 14.3.4 must be met before a student-athlete's transfer to the certifying institution. Thus, if a two-year college student transfers (as defined in Bylaw 14.3.2) to an institution before the completion of applicable transfer requirements, the student is subject to the one-year residence requirement at the certifying institution, even though the student transfers back to the two-year college and completes the necessary requirements.

**14.3.4.5.6 Transfer to Original Institution After Completion of Two-Year College Transfer Requirements.** A student-athlete with a previous progress-toward-degree deficiency who transfers to the four-year college from which they transferred to the two-year college may be immediately eligible upon returning to the certifying institution provided the student-athlete has met the two-year college transfer requirements prior to participation.

**14.3.4.5.7 Competition in Year of Transfer.** A transfer student from a two-year institution, who has met the two-year transfer eligibility requirements (per Bylaw 14.3.4), is not eligible to compete during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution if the student-athlete has

competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous two-year institution.

**14.3.4.5.7.1 Exception – Competition During the Nonchampionship Segment.** A transfer student-athlete who competes during the nonchampionship segment where the contest(s) count toward championships selection criteria (e.g., golf, tennis) may be immediately eligible for competition during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution upon transfer during the same academic year.

**14.3.4.5.7.2 Alternate Playing Season.** In the sports of baseball, golf and tennis, during the fall term, a student-athlete who participates in competition where the institution and/or conference declares the alternate playing season may not be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer to the certifying institution that does not declare the alternate playing season during the same academic year.

**14.3.4.6 Exceptions or Waivers for Transfer From Two-Year Colleges.** A transfer student from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program is not subject to the residence requirement at the certifying institution, if any one of the following conditions is met. An individual who is a partial qualifier shall not be permitted to use the exceptions under this bylaw.

**14.3.4.6.1 Discontinued/Nonsponsored Sport Exception.** The student changed institutions in order to continue participation in a sport because the student's original two-year college dropped the sport from its intercollegiate program (even though it may re-establish that sport on a club basis) or never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level while the student was in attendance at that institution, provided the student never attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport and the student earned at least a minimum 2.200 grade-point average (see Bylaw 14.3.4.5.3.2) at the two-year college.

**14.3.4.6.1.1 Original Collegiate Institution.** In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the two-year college in which the student was enrolled immediately before the transfer to the certifying institution, provided that, if the student is transferring from a two-year college that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

**14.3.4.6.1.2 Application -- COVID-19 Season Cancellations.** If the student's original two-year college does not participate in competition during the 2020-21 academic year due to COVID-19, the student does not

have access to this exception to be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer.

**14.3.4.6.2 Nonrecruited Student Exception.** The student transfers to the certifying institution and the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student was not recruited per Bylaw 13.02.10.1 by the certifying institution;
- (b) No athletically related financial assistance has been received by the student-athlete; and
- (c) The student-athlete has not competed for any previous institution and has not participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in intercollegiate athletics beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period at any previous institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity.

**14.3.4.6.3 Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception.** The student transfers to the certifying institution from a two-year college and, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment.

**14.3.4.6.4 Return to Original Institution Exception.** The student returns to the four-year college from which they transferred to the two-year college, provided the student did not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the time of the transfer from the four-year college. The amount of time originally spent in residence at the first four-year college may be used by the student in completing the unfulfilled residence requirement at that institution. The student must satisfy all progress-toward-degree requirements the student triggered during their previous enrollment at the certifying institution (e.g., annual credit-hour requirement) before being eligible for competition. (See Bylaw 14.3.4.5.6).

**14.3.4.7 Waivers.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all two-year college transfer requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations.

**14.3.5 Four-Year College Transfers.** See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

**14.3.5.1 General Rule.** A transfer student from a four-year institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition at a member institution until the student has fulfilled a residence requirement of one full academic year (two full semesters or three full quarters) at the certifying institution (see Bylaw 14.02.21).

**14.3.5.1.1 Attendance for One Academic Year.** A transfer student from a four-year institution who attended a four-year institution at least one academic year shall be eligible for financial aid and practice at a Division II institution under the rules of the institution and the conference of which the institution is a member, regardless of the student's qualification status (per Bylaw 14.2.8.2) at the time of initial enrollment.

**14.3.5.1.2 Attendance for Less Than One Academic Year.** A transfer student from a four-year institution who was a partial qualifier (as defined in Bylaw 14.02.19.2) and who attended the four-year institution less than one full academic year shall not be eligible for competition during the first academic year of attendance at the certifying institution. Participation in practice sessions and the receipt of financial aid during the first academic year of attendance at the certifying institution by such students is governed by the provisions of Bylaw 14.2.8.2.2 (partial qualifiers).

**14.3.5.1.2.1 Attendance at Four-Year Institution for Less Than One Academic Year Following Transfer from a Two-Year Institution.** A student-athlete who initially enrolls at a two-year college, transfers to another four-year institution and attends the four-year institution for less than one full academic year before transferring to a Division II institution (e.g., '2-4-4 transfer') is not eligible to use a four-year college transfer exception unless the student-athlete would have been immediately eligible for competition under the Division II two-year college transfer regulations had the student-athlete transferred directly from the two-year college to the Division II institution.

**14.3.5.2 Subvarsity Competition.** A transfer student from a four-year institution who was a qualifier shall be eligible to compete immediately at the subvarsity level only at the certifying institution before meeting the transfer eligibility requirements. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a four-year institution who was not a qualifier shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution.

**14.3.5.3 Exceptions for Transfers From Four-Year Colleges.** A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.3.5.1) from a four-year collegiate institution is not subject to the residence requirement for intercollegiate competition, provided the student does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring (except for the return to the original institution without participation exception) and any of the following exceptions are satisfied. However, during the student-athlete's first academic year of full-time collegiate enrollment, such conditions may serve as a basis for an exception to the residence requirement for transfer students to a Division II institution who, at the time of initial collegiate enrollment, met the requirements for "qualifiers" (set forth in Bylaw—14.2.8.2.1) in Division II. See Bylaw 14.3.5.1.2.1 for additional information regarding the eligibility of a 2-4-4 transfer who attended the initial four-year institution for less than one academic year.

**14.3.5.3.1 Educational Exchange Exception.** The student returns to their original institution under any of the following conditions:

- (a) After participation in a cooperative educational exchange program or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), provided the student is to receive a baccalaureate degree from the institution from which the student transferred to participate in the exchange program;
- (b) After one semester or quarter of attendance at another institution for purposes of taking academic courses not available at the original institution, regardless of whether they are required in the degree program the student-athlete is pursuing at the first institution. In such an instance, the student also may take additional courses that were available at the first institution; or
- (c) After one academic year of attendance at another collegiate institution, in accordance with the program recommended by the appropriate academic officer at the original institution, provided the student was in good academic standing at the time the student left the original institution.

**14.3.5.3.2 Exchange Student Exception.** The student is enrolled in the certifying institution for a specified period of time as an exchange student participating in a formal and established educational exchange program recognized by the institution's academic authorities. (See Bylaw 14.2.9.1.1.)

**14.3.5.3.3 Discontinued Academic Program Exception.** The certifying institution concludes that the student changed institutions in order to continue a major course of study because the original institution discontinued the academic program in the student's major.

**14.3.5.3.4 Military Service, Religious Mission Exception.** The student returns from at least 12 months of active service in the armed forces of the United States, or from at least 12 months of active service on an official religious mission.

**14.3.5.3.4.1 Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Military Service or Religious Mission.** The amount of time that an individual is enrolled as a regular student in a collegiate institution while concurrently on active military duty or engaged in active service on an official religious mission may not be counted as a part of the 12-month active-duty period that qualifies a student for an exception to the transfer residence requirement.

**14.3.5.3.5 Discontinued/Nonsponsored Sport Exception.** In a particular sport when the student transfers at any time to the certifying institution and participates in the sport on the intercollegiate level after any of the following conditions has occurred:

- (a) The student's original four-year collegiate institution dropped the sport [in which the student has participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) at that institution in intercollegiate competition] from its intercollegiate program. This exception becomes applicable at the time the student-athlete's institution indicates through public announcement that their sport will be discontinued; or
- (b) The student's original four-year collegiate institution never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level while the student was in attendance at the institution, provided the student had never transferred from any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that particular sport.

**14.3.5.3.5.1 Original Institution.** In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the one in which the student was enrolled immediately before transfer to the certifying institution, it being understood that, if the student is transferring from an institution that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

**14.3.5.3.5.2 Application -- COVID-19 Season Cancellations.** If the student's original four-year collegiate institution does not participate in competition during the 2020-21 academic year due to COVID-19, the student does not have access to this exception to be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer.

**14.3.5.3.6 Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception.** The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year college and,



for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment.

**14.3.5.3.7 Return to Original Institution Without Participation or With Minimal Participation Exception.** The student enrolls at a second four-year collegiate institution, does not compete and does not participate in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport at the second institution beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period and returns to the original institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. A student may use this exception even if they have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring. The student must satisfy all progress-toward-degree requirements the student triggered during their previous enrollment at the certifying institution (e.g., annual credit-hour requirement) before being eligible for competition.

**14.3.5.3.8 Nonrecruited Student Exception.** The student transfers to the certifying institution, and the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student-athlete was not recruited by the certifying institution (per Bylaw 13.02.10.1);
- (b) No athletically related financial assistance has been received by the student-athlete; and
- (c) The student-athlete has not competed for any previous institution and has not participated in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in intercollegiate athletics beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period at any previous institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity.

**14.3.5.3.9 One-Time Transfer Exception.** The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all of the following conditions are met (for graduate students, see Bylaw 14.2.4.1):

- (a) The student has not transferred previously from one four-year institution, unless, in the previous transfer, the student-athlete received an exception

per Bylaw 14.3.5.3.5 (discontinued/nonsponsored sport exception). A student-athlete who, prior to the transfer to the certifying institution, attended two four-year institutions ("4-2-4-4" transfer), does not meet this condition regardless of whether the student was enrolled at a two-year institution between attendance at the two previous four-year institutions;

- (b) The student is in good academic standing and meets the progress-toward-degree requirements at the previous four-year institution at the time of transfer to the certifying institution, except that, for a student transferring from a Division I institution, they are not required to have fulfilled the necessary percentage-of-degree requirements at the previous institution. The transferring student must be one who would have been academically eligible had they remained at the institution from which the student transferred, and they also must be eligible at the certifying institution as a regularly enrolled, full-time, degree-seeking student who was admitted in accordance with the regular, published entrance requirements of the institution;
- (c) The head coach of the certifying institution and the student shall certify that no athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interest communicated or made contact with the student-athlete, or any individual associated with the student (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process (see Bylaw 13.1.1.2);
- (d) The student must provide written notification of transfer to the institution by June 15 (see Bylaw 14.3.5.3.9 for an exception for midyear and non-Division II transfers); and
- (e) A student who has one season of competition remaining in their sport or two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters or fewer remaining in which to complete their eligibility and who has not earned a baccalaureate degree, shall have satisfactorily completed an average of 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit acceptable toward any baccalaureate degree program at the certifying institution for each term of full-time attendance, at any collegiate institution, with a cumulative minimum grade-point average of 2.000 in the transferable degree credits.

**14.3.5.3.9.1 Application of Notification Dates to Midyear and Non-Division II Transfers.** A midyear transfer student-athlete or student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) is not required to have provided notification of transfer to the institution by the notification deadline in the previous academic year.

**14.3.5.3.9.2 Waivers.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive academic components of the one-time transfer exception. Those components include good academic standing, progress-toward-degree requirements, and the 12-semester or 12-quarter hour requirement for a transfer student who has one season of competition remaining in their sport or two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters or fewer remaining to complete eligibility and who has not earned a baccalaureate degree. The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to waive all remaining components of the one-time transfer exception.

**14.3.5.4 Competition in Year of Transfer.** A transfer student from a four-year institution, who has received a waiver of or exception to the transfer residence requirement (per Bylaw 14.2.4.1 or 14.3.5.3), is not eligible to compete at the certifying institution during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship if the student-athlete has competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous four-year institution. Therefore, if the institution from which a student-athlete transfers declares separate segments of its playing and practice season, a student-athlete may compete during the segment that does not conclude with the NCAA championship for such an institution and during the segment that does conclude with the NCAA championship for the certifying institution during the same academic year in the same sport, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible for competition.

**14.3.5.4.1 Exception – Competition During the Nonchampionship Segment.** A transfer student-athlete who competes during the nonchampionship segment where the contest(s) count toward championships selection criteria (e.g., golf, tennis) may be immediately eligible for competition during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution upon transfer during the same academic year.

**14.3.5.4.2 Alternate Playing Season.** In the sports of baseball, golf and tennis, during the fall term, a student-athlete who participates in competition where the institution and/or conference declares the alternate playing season may not be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer to the certifying institution that does not declare the alternate playing season during the same academic year.

#### **14.4 Athletics Eligibility.**

**14.4.1 Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.** Volleyball and beach volleyball are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaws 14.4.3.4.2, 14.4.4, 14.4.5, 14.4.6, 14.4.7, and 14.4.8.

**14.4.2 Postseason and Regular-Season Competition.** To be eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football bowl games, the student-athlete shall meet all of the Association's general eligibility requirements and any additional eligibility requirements adopted by the applicable membership division.

**14.4.2.1 Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs.** A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, is found to have used a substance on the list of banned drugs, as set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.1, shall be declared ineligible for further participation in postseason and regular-season competition in accordance with the ineligibility provisions in Bylaws 18.4.1.4.1 and 18.4.1.4.2.

**14.4.3 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.** A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.12 and 14.4.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

**14.4.3.1 Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Service Assignment.** Any time in which a student-athlete is enrolled for a minimum full-time load as a regular student in a collegiate institution while simultaneously on active duty in the U.S. military, on an official religious mission or with a recognized foreign aid service of the U.S. government shall count against the 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the four seasons of eligibility must be completed.

**14.4.3.2 Ten-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.** A student-athlete shall complete their seasons of participation during the first 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the student is enrolled in a collegiate institution in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, as determined by the regulations of that institution. For an institution that conducts registration other than on a traditional semester or quarter basis, the Academic Requirements Committee shall determine an equivalent enrollment period.

**14.4.3.2.1 Use of Semester or Quarter.** A student-athlete is considered to have used a semester or quarter under this rule when the student-athlete is officially registered in a collegiate institution (domestic or foreign) in a regular term of an academic year for a minimum full-time program of studies, as determined by the institution, and attends the first day of classes for that term, even if the student-athlete drops to part-time status during that first day of classes (see Bylaw 14.4.3.3).

**14.4.3.2.2 Pregnancy Exception.** A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of this 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a pregnant student-athlete.

**14.4.3.2.3 Transgender Female Exception.** A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a transgender female (male to female) student-athlete who uses two semesters or three quarters while completing one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment or surgical intervention.

**14.4.3.2.4 Ten-Semester/15-Quarter Rule Waivers.** The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may approve waivers to the 10-semester/15-quarter rule as it deems appropriate.

**14.4.3.2.4.1 Waiver Criteria.** A waiver of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility is designed to provide a student-athlete with the opportunity to participate in four seasons of intercollegiate competition within a 10-semester/15-quarter period. This waiver may be granted, based upon objective evidence, for reasons that are beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution, which deprive the student-athlete of the opportunity to participate for more than one season in their sport within the 10-semester/15-quarter period. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement reserves the right to review requests that do not meet the more-than-one-year criteria detailed in this bylaw for extraordinary circumstances or extreme hardship.

**14.4.3.2.4.1.1 Application of Waiver.** If the waiver is granted, it shall be applied during the next available opportunity to enroll [e.g., next semester(s), quarter(s)].

**14.4.3.2.4.1.2 Circumstances Beyond Control.** Circumstances considered to be beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution and do not cause a participation opportunity to be used shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Situations clearly supported by contemporaneous medical documentation, which states that a student-athlete is unable to participate in intercollegiate competition as a result of incapacitating physical or mental circumstances;
- (b) The student-athlete is unable to participate in intercollegiate athletics as a result of a life-threatening or incapacitating injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family that clearly is supported by contemporaneous medical documentation;
- (c) Reliance by the student-athlete on written, contemporaneous, clearly erroneous academic advice provided to the student-athlete from a specific academic authority from a collegiate institution regarding the academic status of the student-athlete or prospective student-athlete that directly leads to that individual not being eligible to participate and, but for the clearly

erroneous advice, the student-athlete would have established eligibility for intercollegiate competition;

- (d) Natural disaster (e.g., earthquakes, floods); and
- (e) 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 that prohibits the student-athlete from participating in intercollegiate athletics. These circumstances must be clearly supported by objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination) and must be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent.

**14.4.3.2.4.1.3 Circumstances Within Control.** Circumstances that are considered to be within the control of the student-athlete and the institution and cause a participation opportunity to be used include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) A student-athlete's decision to attend an institution that does not sponsor their sport, or decides not to participate at an institution that does sponsor their sport;
- (b) An inability to participate due to failure to meet institutional/conference or NCAA academic requirements, or disciplinary reasons or incarceration culminating in or resulting from a conviction;
- (c) Reliance by a student-athlete on misinformation from a coaching staff member;
- (d) Redshirt year, unless it meets the exception pursuant to Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1.4;
- (e) An inability to participate as a result of a transfer year in residence or fulfilling a condition for restoration of eligibility; and
- (f) A student-athlete's lack of understanding regarding the specific starting date of their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility.

**14.4.3.2.4.1.4 Waiver -- Student-Athlete Who Does Not Use Season of Competition During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment.** For a student-athlete who does not use a season of

competition during their initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at any institution, a waiver may be granted if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The student-athlete was academically and athletically eligible and was on the institution's eligibility list (formerly squad list) during their initial year of collegiate enrollment; and
- (b) The student-athlete was denied one participation opportunity per Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1 following their initial year of collegiate enrollment.

**14.4.3.2.4.1.4.1 Application of Waiver.** If the waiver is granted, it must be used during the next available opportunity [e.g., next semester(s) or quarter(s)].

**14.4.3.2.4.2 Practice While Waiver Is Pending.** A student-athlete, who has exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility, may practice, but not compete, for 30 consecutive calendar days, provided the institution has filed a 10-semester/15-quarter waiver request with the NCAA national office. If such a request is denied prior to exhausting the 30-day practice period, the student-athlete must cease all practice activities upon the institution's notification of the denial.

#### **14.4.3.3 Additional Applications of the 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.**

**14.4.3.3.1 Athletics Competition.** Even though a student is enrolled for less than a minimum full-time program of studies at a collegiate institution, a student shall use a semester or quarter under the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility if the individual represents the institution in intercollegiate athletics.

**14.4.3.3.2 Nonrecognized College.** Enrollment in a postsecondary, noncollegiate institution (e.g., technical school, seminary or business college) in the United States that is not accredited at the college level by an agency or association recognized by the secretary of the Department of Education and legally authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree, constitutes enrollment in the application of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule (Bylaw 14.4.3) only if:

- (a) The student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies at such an institution that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program; or
- (b) The student, whether enrolled for a minimum full-time program of studies or not, represents the institution in intercollegiate athletics.

**14.4.3.3.3 Joint College/High School Program.** A student-athlete's eligibility under the 10-semester/15-quarter rule does not begin while a student is enrolled

in a collegiate institution in a joint high school/college academic program for high school students, in which the courses count as both high school graduation credit and college credit, provided the student has not officially graduated from high school and does not practice (including limited preseason tryouts) or compete for the college's athletics programs.

**14.4.3.3.4 Vocational Program.** A student-athlete's eligibility under the 10-semester rule does not begin while the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies as a part of a special vocational program that combines enrollment in regular college courses and participation in vocational training courses, provided the student is not considered to be regularly matriculated by the institution, does not go through the customary registration and testing procedures required of all regular entering students and is not eligible for the institution's extracurricular activities, including athletics.

**14.4.3.3.5 Eligibility for Practice.** A student-athlete receiving athletics aid after having engaged in four seasons of intercollegiate competition in a sport may continue to take part in organized, institutional practice sessions in that sport without being a counter (see Bylaw 15.02.4), provided the individual has eligibility remaining under the 10-semester rule.

#### **14.4.3.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.**

**14.4.3.4.1 Minimum Amount of Competition.** Any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport. This provision is applicable to intercollegiate athletics competition conducted by a two-year or four-year collegiate institution at the varsity or subvarsity level.

**14.4.3.4.1.1 Transfer from a Non-Division II Institution.** The Division II season of competition legislation does not apply to a transfer student-athlete's previous participation at a non-Division II institution (e.g., NCAA Division I or III, NAIA, two-year college). A transfer student-athlete is subject to the legislation applicable to the division or association of which the previous institution was a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.

**14.4.3.4.1.2 Exception -- Division III Transfer.** A Division III student-athlete who is charged with a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not be charged with a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.

**14.4.3.4.1.3 Exception -- Two-Year College Scrimmages.** A two-year college prospective student-athlete may compete in a scrimmage as a member of a two-year college team without counting such



competition as a season of competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.

**14.4.3.4.1.3.1 Official Scoring.** Official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:

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

**14.4.3.4.1.4 Exception -- Competition in the Nonchampionship Segment.** In field hockey, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's volleyball and men's and women's water polo, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment in the same academic year that concludes with the NCAA championship. In baseball, women's beach volleyball, softball and men's and women's lacrosse, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition. Prior to participating against outside competition during the nonchampionship segment, student-athletes shall be certified as eligible (e.g., amateurism, enrolled full time).

**14.4.3.4.1.5 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.** A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not use a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment.

**14.4.3.4.1.6 Alumni Game, Fundraising Activity or Celebrity Sports Activity.** A student-athlete may engage in outside competition in either one alumni game, one fundraising activity or one celebrity sports activity during a season without counting such competition as a season of competition, provided the event is exempted from the institution's maximum number of contests or dates of competition as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17.

**14.4.3.4.1.7 Preseason Exhibition Contests or Dates of Competition/Preseason Scrimmages During Initial Year.** During a student-athlete's initial year of collegiate enrollment, they may compete in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason

scrimmages (as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17) that occur prior to the first countable contest or date of competition in the sport without counting such competition as a season of competition.

**14.4.3.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment.**

**14.4.3.4.2.1 Administration of Participation in Organized Competition.**

**14.4.3.4.2.1.1 High School Graduation.** An individual's high school graduation date (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) shall be considered to be the graduation date of the final high school class (e.g., junior, senior) of which they were a member.

**14.4.3.4.2.1.1.1 Early High School Graduation.** If an individual graduates early from high school, they become a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.

**14.4.3.4.2.1.1.2 Late High School Graduation -- Required Repeat Year.** If an individual is required to repeat an entire year of high school attendance, they become a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.

**14.4.3.4.2.1.1.3 Discontinued High School Enrollment.** An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one calendar year has elapsed) following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

**14.4.3.4.2.1.2 Organized Competition.** Athletics competition shall be considered organized if any one of the following conditions exists:

- (a) Competition is scheduled in advance;
- (b) Official score is kept;
- (c) Individual or team standings or statistics are maintained;
- (d) Official timer or game officials are used;

- (e) Admission is charged;
- (f) Teams are regularly formed or team rosters are predetermined;
- (g) Team uniforms are used;
- (h) An individual or team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) The competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

**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 progress-toward-degree and transfer 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 Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition.** An individual shall not be charged with a season of intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 following the one-year time period after the individual's high school graduation and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

**14.4.3.4.2.2.1 Service Exceptions.** Participation in organized competition during time spent in the armed services, on official religious missions or with recognized foreign aid services of the U.S. government and the period between completion of the service commitment and the first opportunity to enroll as a full-time student in a regular academic term is exempt from the application of Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.

**14.4.3.4.2.2.2 National/International Competition Exception.** For a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted if the competition is national or international competition that includes participation in:

- (a) Official Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, Olympic and Paralympic training, tryouts and competition or junior level equivalents (e.g., Youth Olympic, Youth Paralympic, U20 World Cup, junior national teams);
- (b) Officially recognized training and competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic or Paralympic tryouts or junior level equivalents (e.g., Youth Olympic, Youth Paralympic, U20 World Cup, junior national teams);  
or
- (c) Official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for 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) or junior level

equivalents (e.g., Youth Olympic, Youth Paralympic, U20 World Cup, junior national teams).

**14.4.3.4.2.2.3 Skiing Exception.** For a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted in skiing when such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the U.S. Skiing Association and its international counterparts.

**14.4.3.4.2.2.4 Men's Ice Hockey Exception.** In men's ice hockey, for a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2 shall be excepted.

**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 Waiver.** The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to review and grant waivers of the organized competition legislation.

**14.4.3.4.3 Road Racing.** Participation in road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Therefore, an individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-calendar year time period following high school graduation and participates in a road race(s) shall use one season of intercollegiate competition in cross country and track and field for each consecutive 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The individual shall also fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in cross country or track and field competition.

**14.4.3.4.4 Track and Field and Cross Country.** Cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field shall be considered separate sports.

**14.4.3.4.5 Foreign-Tour Competition.** A student-athlete who did not compete during the institution's season just completed and who represents the institution in a certified foreign tour after that intercollegiate season and before the start of the

next academic year shall not be charged with a season of eligibility (see Bylaw 17.31.1.5).

**14.4.3.5 Hardship Waiver.** A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference or the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions:

- (a) The incapacitating injury or illness occurs in one of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition at any two-year or four-year collegiate institution;
- (b) The injury or illness occurs prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport (see Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.3) and results in an incapacity to compete for the remainder of that playing season; and
- (c) The injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport), or 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in their sport (see Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.5.1.1 for information regarding percent calculation in track and field and Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.5.1.2 for information regarding percent calculation in basketball). Competition (excluding alumni games, fundraising activities, celebrity sports activities, scrimmages and exhibition contests per Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport) against outside participants during the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship, or, if so designated, during the official NCAA championship playing season in that sport (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), shall be countable under this limitation. In basketball, contests played as part of a region challenge shall be countable under this limitation.

**14.4.3.5.1 Administration of Hardship Waiver.** The hardship waiver shall be administered by the member conferences of the Association or, in the case of an independent member institution, by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. An institution may appeal a decision by its conference to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

**14.4.3.5.2 Criteria for Administration of Hardship Waiver.** The following criteria are to be employed in the administration of the hardship waiver:

**14.4.3.5.2.1 Nature of Injury/Illness.** It is not necessary for the incapacitating injury or illness to be the direct result of the student's participation in the institution's organized practice or game competition. The student-athlete may qualify for the hardship waiver as a result of any incapacitating injury or illness occurring after the individual becomes a student-athlete by reporting on call for regular squad practice or after

attending the first day of classes as a full-time student at a member institution.

**14.4.3.5.2.2 Medical Documentation.** Contemporaneous medical documentation from a physician or medical doctor that establishes the student-athlete's inability to compete for the remainder of the playing season as a result of an injury or illness shall be submitted with any hardship-waiver request. Chiropractic records do not constitute medical documentation for purposes of administering a hardship-waiver request. For circumstances involving psychological or mental illnesses, the required contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation may be provided by an individual who is qualified and licensed to diagnose and treat the particular illness (e.g., psychologist).

**14.4.3.5.2.3 First-Half-of-Season Calculation.** The first half of the season is measured by the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in the sport. Any computation of the first half of the season that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number. The first full contest or date of competition immediately following the rounded value is the first contest or date of competition in the second half of the season (e.g., 50 percent of an 11-game football schedule -- 5.5 games -- shall be considered six games and any injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the seventh contest).

**14.4.3.5.2.3.1 Contests or Dates of Competition Based on Championship Selection.** In sports in which the playing season is divided into two segments, but championship selection is based on competition throughout the season (e.g., golf and tennis), the first half of the season shall be measured by the Bylaw 17 maximum for the entire season (e.g., nonchampionship and championship segments). In sports in which the playing season may be divided into two segments but the championship selection is based on competition during only one segment of the season (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the championship segment.

**14.4.3.5.2.3.2 First-Half-of-Season Calculation -- Track and Field.** For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the first half of the season calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in

indoor track, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the beginning of the fourth date of competition. For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17.

**14.4.3.5.2.3.3 First Half-of-Season Calculation – Basketball.** If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17 plus the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the 15th contest (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).

**14.4.3.5.2.4 Reinjury in Second Half of Season.** A student-athlete who suffers an injury in the first half of the season that concludes with the NCAA championship, attempts to return to competition during the second half of that season and then is unable to participate further as a result of aggravating the original injury does not qualify for the hardship waiver.

**14.4.3.5.2.5 Percent Calculation.** The following requirements apply in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.5-(c) and 14.4.3.5.2.3 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the minimum- and maximum- contests requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)

**14.4.3.5.2.5.1 Denominator in Percent Computation.** The denominator in the percent calculation shall be based on the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport.

**14.4.3.5.2.5.1.1 Denominator in Percent Computation -- Track and Field.** For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the denominator in the percent calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in indoor track, the denominator in the percent calculation for a hardship waiver in indoor track and field would be six.



For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition or the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 may be used in the denominator.

**14.4.3.5.2.5.1.2 Denominator in Percent Calculation – Basketball.** If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the denominator shall include the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the denominator in the percent calculation would be 28 (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).

**14.4.3.5.2.5.2 Fraction in Percent Computation.** Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 30 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 7.8 games -- shall be considered eight games).

**14.4.3.5.2.6 Transfer Student-Athletes.** The hardship-waiver criteria for a transfer student-athlete who suffers an injury or illness while attending an NCAA Division I or Division III institution may be based on the method that would be most beneficial to the student-athlete (the rule applicable to the member division in which the injury or illness occurred or the Division II rule). The application of a particular division's legislation must include all the applicable elements of that division's legislation, as opposed to selected elements of the legislation of each division.

**14.4.3.5.2.7 Foreign-Tour Competition.** A student-athlete who qualifies for a hardship for the previous academic year would not use a season of competition if the student-athlete represents the institution on a certified foreign tour during the summer-vacation period at the conclusion of that academic year.

**14.4.3.6 Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Ineligible.** In conjunction with a request for restoration of eligibility and any conditions imposed thereon per Bylaw 14.1.4, a student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement when they participated in a limited amount of competition under either of the following circumstances:

- (a) As a result of a good-faith, erroneous formal declaration of eligibility by the institution's appropriate certifying authority; or
- (b) As a result of a student-athlete's good-faith, erroneous reliance upon a coaching staff member's decision to place the student-athlete into competition prior to the coaching staff member receiving a formal declaration of eligibility for the student-athlete from the institution's appropriate certifying authority.

**14.4.3.6.1 Applicable Conditions.** The competition must have occurred under all of the following conditions:

- (a) The competition occurred while the student-athlete was representing an NCAA member institution;
- (b) The student-athlete did not participate in more than two events or 10 percent (whichever number is greater) of the institution's scheduled or completed events in their sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating both the number of events in which the student-athlete participated and the number of completed events during that season (both segments) in the sport;
- (c) The student-athlete was involved innocently and inadvertently in the erroneous declaration of eligibility, which permitted the student-athlete to compete while ineligible; and
- (d) The student-athlete, in the case of a coaching staff member's erroneous decision, had reason to believe they were eligible to participate, and the student-athlete did not contribute to the coaching staff member's erroneous decision to allow the student-athlete to participate.

**14.4.3.6.2 Administrative Criteria.** The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of the season-of-competition waiver:

**14.4.3.6.2.1 Ten Percent Calculation.** The following requirements are to be met in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.6.1-(b) and 14.4.3.6.2.1 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the minimum- and maximum-contest requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)

**14.4.3.6.2.1.1 Denominator in Percent Computation.** The denominator in the institution's percent calculation shall be based on the institution's number of scheduled or completed varsity contests or dates of competition [see Bylaw 14.4.3.6.1-(b)] as computed for playing and practice season purposes in Bylaw 17 for

the applicable sport. Exempted events in Bylaw 17 are included in the percent calculation, except for discretionary exemptions in the applicable sport.

**14.4.3.6.2.1.2 Fraction in Percent Calculation.** Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 10 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 2.6 games -- shall be considered three games).

**14.4.3.6.2.1.3 Conference Championships.** A conference championship shall be counted as one contest or date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed contests or dates of competition in the sport, regardless of the number of dates or games involved in the championship. However, for purposes of this regulation, the calculation of scheduled contests or dates of competition in a particular season does not include postseason competition conducted after the completion of the institution's regular-season schedule and conference tournament.

**14.4.3.6.2.1.4 NCAA Regional Cross Country Meet.** The NCAA regional cross country meet may be counted as one date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed dates of competition, provided no qualifying standards exist for participation in the meet.

**14.4.3.7 Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Eligible.** A student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement when, due to extenuating circumstances (per Bylaw 14.4.3.7.1.3), the student-athlete, while eligible, did not compete in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport) or 30 percent (whichever number is greater) of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17. The competition must occur prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating the number of contests or dates of competition in which the student-athlete participated.

**14.4.3.7.1 Administrative Criteria.** The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of this season-of-competition waiver:

**14.4.3.7.1.1 Thirty Percent Calculation.** The requirements specified in Bylaw 14.4.3.6.2.1 shall apply to the 30 percent calculation specified in this waiver.

**14.4.3.7.1.2 First-Half-of-Season Requirement.** The first-half-of-season requirements specified in Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.3 shall apply to the first-half-of-season requirement specified in this waiver.

**14.4.3.7.1.3 Extenuating Circumstances.** Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) The student-athlete is unable to compete as a result of a life-threatening injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family, which clearly is supported by contemporaneous medical documentation;
- (b) The student-athlete is unable to compete as a result of extreme financial difficulties as a result of a specific event (e.g., layoff, death in family) experienced by the student-athlete or an individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent. These circumstances must be clearly supported by objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination) and must be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent;
- (c) The student-athlete's institution dropped the sport (in which the student has practiced or competed) from its intercollegiate program; and
- (d) The student-athlete participated in nonregular-season competition (e.g., alumni contest, exhibition contests, scrimmages, nonchampionship segment contests) due to a coach's documented misunderstanding of the legislation. The competition must have occurred while the student-athlete was representing an NCAA institution.

**14.4.3.7.1.4 Review Authority.** In cases where a student-athlete does not meet the extenuating circumstances listed in Bylaw 14.4.3.7.1.3, the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall have authority to review and grant waivers based on additional documented extenuating circumstances.

#### **14.4.4 U.S. Service Academies, Special Eligibility Provisions.**

**14.4.4.1 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.** The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may approve waivers to the 10-semester/15-quarter rule (see Bylaw 14.4.3) for student-athletes of the national service academies who have exhausted eligibility in one sport but wish to compete in another sport or sports in which they have eligibility remaining.

**14.4.5 Permissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment.** Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, participation in the following activities and receipt of the following benefits will not jeopardize the athletics eligibility status of an individual:

- (a) **Actual and Necessary Expenses for Participation on an Outside Amateur Sports Team or Organization.** Receipt of actual and necessary expenses from an outside amateur sports team or organization or outside sponsor (e.g., neighbor, business), other than an agent, professional service provider, representative of an institution's athletics interests or professional sports organization, for competition and practice held in preparation for such competition. Practice must be conducted in a continuous time period preceding the competition except for practice sessions conducted by a national team, which occasionally may be interrupted for specific periods of time before the competition;
- (b) **Actual and Necessary Expenses for Participation in a Collegiate All-Star Contest.** A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses from an outside sponsor (e.g., neighbor, business), other than an agent, professional service provider, representative of an institution's athletics interests or professional sports organization, for participation in a collegiate all-star contest, provided the student-athlete has exhausted eligibility in the sport.
- (c) **Prize Money Based on Place Finish -- Individual Sports.** In individual sports, receipt of prize money based on place finish or performance in an open athletics event. The competition must occur outside the institution's declared playing season during the institution's official summer vacation period. In addition, such prize money shall not exceed the student-athlete's actual and necessary expenses and may be provided only by the sponsor of the event. Actual and necessary expenses shall not include the expenses or fees of anyone other than the student-athlete;
- (d) **Awards Based on Performance in Outside Competition.** Receipt of an award (e.g., trophy, medal, saddle) based on place finish or performance in outside competition, subject to the rules of the amateur organization that governs the competition;
- (e) **Permissible Insurance Against Disabling Injury or Illness.** An individual may borrow against their future earnings potential from an established, accredited commercial lending institution exclusively for the purpose of purchasing insurance (with no cash surrender value) against a disabling injury or illness that would prevent the individual from pursuing a chosen career, provided a third party (including a member institution's athletics department staff members, its professional sports counseling panel or representatives of its athletics interests) is not involved in arrangements for securing the loan. The student-athlete shall report all such transactions and shall file copies of any loan documents associated with disability insurance with the member institution, regardless of the source of the collateral for the loan. The student-athlete also shall file copies of the insurance policy with the member institution, regardless of whether a loan is secured to purchase the insurance policy;

- (f) **Elite-Level Participation.** Receipt of the following benefits at any time without jeopardizing an individual's amateur status:
- (1) Funds that are administered by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee pursuant to its Operation Gold Program;
  - (2) Incentive Programs for International Athletes. An international prospective student-athlete or international student-athlete may accept funds from their country's national Olympic governing body (equivalent to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee) based on place finish in one event per year that is designated as the highest level of international competition for the year by the governing body;
  - (3) Comprehensive benefits of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee Elite Athlete Health Insurance Program;
  - (4) Actual and necessary expenses [including grants but not prize money, whereby the recipient has qualified for the grant based on their performance in a specific event(s)] to cover developmental training, coaching, facility usage, equipment, apparel, supplies, comprehensive health insurance, travel, room and board without jeopardizing the individual's eligibility for intercollegiate athletics, provided such expenses are approved and provided directly by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, the appropriate national governing body in the sport (or, for international individuals, the equivalent organization of that nation) or a governmental entity;
  - (5) Actual and necessary expenses from a commercial company (other than a professional sports organization) or members of the local community for an individual's relatives or legal guardians to attend the Olympic Games in which the individual will participate;
  - (6) Actual and necessary expenses to participate in Olympic tours or exhibitions from a sponsor other than the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, national governing body or nonprofessional organizations sponsoring the event, provided that the student-athlete does not miss class time and the exhibition does not conflict with dates of institutional competition; or
  - (7) Receipt of commemorative items incidental to participation in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, Pan American Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships and World Cup events through the applicable national governing body. These benefits may include any and all apparel, leisure wear, footwear and other items that are provided to all athletes participating in the applicable event.

**14.4.6 Impermissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment.** Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual's participation in the following activities or receipt of

the following benefits will jeopardize the individual's athletics eligibility and eligibility for intercollegiate participation in a particular sport:

- (a) **Use of Athletics Skill for Pay.** Use of athletics skills for pay in any form in that sport from any source (e.g., a professional team), including a promise of pay, receipt of direct or indirect salary, gratuity or comparable compensation or preferential treatment, benefits or services. Road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of this Bylaw. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, any payment for participation in a road race will result in an individual's ineligibility for intercollegiate cross country or track and field competition. (See Bylaw 14.4.5-(d) for an exception related to payment based on performance.
- (b) **Name, Image and Likeness Agreements Based on Athletics Participation or Achievement.** Receipt of compensation or incentives for enrollment decisions (e.g., signing a letter of intent or transferring), athletic performance (e.g., points scored, minutes played, winning a contest), achievement (e.g., starting position, award winner), or membership on a team (e.g., being on roster).
- (c) **Receipt of Any Division or Split of Surplus.** Receipt of any division or split of surplus (e.g., bonuses, game receipts).
- (d) **Payment Based on Place Finish.** Any payment, including actual and necessary expenses, conditioned on the individual's or team's place finish or performance or given on an incentive basis, or receipt of expenses in excess of the same reasonable amount for permissible expenses given to all individuals or team members involved in the competition.
- (e) **Receipt of Cash Award for Participation.** Receipt of cash, or the equivalent thereof (e.g., trust fund), as an award for participation in competition at any time, even if such an award is permitted under the rules governing an amateur, noncollegiate event in which the individual is participating. An award or a cash prize that an individual could not receive under NCAA legislation may not be forwarded in the individual's name to a different individual or agency.
- (f) **Expenses or Awards Not Permitted by Amateurism Rules Governing Events.** Receipt of expenses incurred or awards received by an individual that are prohibited by the rules governing an amateur, noncollegiate event in which the individual participates.
- (g) **Unspecified or Unitemized Expenses.** Payment to individual team members or individual competitors for unspecified or unitemized expenses beyond actual and necessary travel, room and board expenses for practice and competition.

**14.4.7 Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility.** The eligibility of a student-athlete who engages in outside competition (see Bylaws 14.2.8.2.2.2 and 17.02.10) is affected as set forth in the following regulations.

**14.4.7.1 Outside Competition, Sports Other Than Basketball.** A student-athlete becomes ineligible for intercollegiate competition in their sport (other than basketball) if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of any outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., tournament play, exhibition games or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate season in the sport (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions) until eligibility is restored by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

**14.4.7.1.1 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.** A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in the program.

**14.4.7.1.2 Additional Restriction -- Men's and Women's Wrestling.** In men's and women's wrestling, a student-athlete may compete outside of the institution's intercollegiate season as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition, except during the period between the beginning of the institution's academic year and November 1. The number of student-athletes from any one institution shall not exceed the applicable limits set forth in Bylaw 17.31.2.

**14.4.7.1.3 Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming.** Triathlon and cross country are considered separate sports, triathlon and track and field are considered separate sports, and triathlon and swimming are considered separate sports for purposes of the outside competition legislation.

**14.4.7.2 Outside Competition, Basketball.** A student-athlete who participates in any organized basketball competition except while representing the institution in intercollegiate competition in accordance with the permissible playing season specified in Bylaw 17.4 becomes ineligible for any further intercollegiate competition in basketball (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions).

**14.4.7.3 Additional Applications of Outside-Competition Regulations, Sports Other Than Basketball.**

**14.4.7.3.1 Eligibility Status.** A student-athlete is considered to be a member of the institution's team, and therefore bound by this regulation in that sport, if the student-athlete:

- (a) Does not practice or compete but is receiving athletically related financial aid for the sport; or
- (b) Is ineligible to compete but practiced with a squad or team in the sport; or



- (c) Is eligible to compete but was not permitted to do so, other than taking part in practice sessions with the squad or team in the sport.

**14.4.7.3.1.1 Exception.** A student-athlete who fails to make the institution's team after participation only in limited preseason tryouts shall not be considered a member of the team for purposes of this regulation.

**14.4.7.3.2 Competition Between Seasons.** If an institution conducts separate fall and spring practice or playing seasons in a sport, it is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in that sport on an outside team during the period between the two seasons without affecting their eligibility.

**14.4.7.3.3 Postseason Competition.** An institution's intercollegiate season includes any scheduled participation in the conference championship in the sport in question but excludes the period between the last regularly scheduled competition and the NCAA championship in that sport.

**14.4.7.3.4 Competition as Individual/Not Representing Institution.** It is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in outside competition as an individual during the academic year in the student-athlete's sport, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete is academically and athletically eligible for intercollegiate competition;
- (b) The student-athlete represents only themselves in the competition; and
- (c) The student-athlete does not engage in such competition as a member of or receive expenses from an outside team; and
  - (1) **Exception - Medical Services.** A student-athlete competing as an individual may receive medical services from their institution's medical personnel (e.g., athletic trainer, team physician) at a competition site.
- (d) The event is an "open" event. An "open" event is one in which the competition must be open to noncollegiate competitors and must be organized, publicized and operated as an event that is open to individuals other than collegiate competitors.

**14.4.7.3.4.1 No Competition Between Beginning of Academic Year and November 1 – Men's and Women's Wrestling.** In men's and women's wrestling, a student-athlete shall not participate in outside competition as an individual between the beginning of the institution's academic year and November 1.

**14.4.7.3.5 Exempt Teams.** In the individual sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.2), such units as "pro-am" golf teams, doubles tennis teams, and relay teams in track and field are not considered to be outside teams for purposes of this legislation.

**14.4.7.4 Additional Applications of Outside-Competition Regulations, Basketball.**

**14.4.7.4.1 Organized Basketball Competition.** Outside basketball competition, including competition involving teams with fewer than five players, shall be considered "organized" if any one of the following conditions exists:

- (a) Teams are regularly formed, or team rosters are predetermined;
- (b) Competition is scheduled and publicized in advance;
- (c) Official score is kept;
- (d) Individual or team standings are maintained;
- (e) Official timer or game officials are used;
- (f) Team uniforms are used;
- (g) Admission is charged;
- (h) A team is privately or commercially sponsored; or
- (i) Competition is either directly or indirectly sponsored, promoted or administered by an individual, an organization or any other agency.

**14.4.7.4.2 Individual Subject to Outside-Competition Regulations.** Once a student-athlete becomes a candidate for the institution's basketball team (i.e., has reported for the squad), or if the student was recruited by a member institution in part for basketball ability and enrolls in the institution, this prohibition against outside organized basketball competition remains applicable until the student-athlete's intercollegiate basketball eligibility has been exhausted. This includes time while the student is officially withdrawn from college, fulfilling a residence requirement following transfer to another college, awaiting transfer or enrolled in a nonmember collegiate institution.

**14.4.7.4.3 Nonrecruited, Nonparticipant.** Participation by a student-athlete in organized basketball competition while enrolled in a member institution and having participated in a sport other than basketball would not jeopardize the student's eligibility in basketball, if the individual had not been recruited in basketball and had not participated on or been a candidate for the institution's intercollegiate basketball team.

**14.4.7.5 Exceptions to Outside-Competition Regulations.** The following exceptions to the outside-competition regulations are permitted.

#### 14.4.7.5.1 In All Sports:

- (a) **High School Alumni Game.** A student-athlete may compete in one game a year involving players from the student-athlete's former high school and its alumni team. In sports other than basketball, this game must take place during an official vacation period of the institution's academic year.
- (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) **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).
- (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.
- (f) **Multisport Events.** A student-athlete may participate in officially recognized state and national multisport events.

#### 14.4.7.5.2 Additional Exceptions for Basketball Only:

- (a) **Summer Competition.** There are no restrictions on the participation of student-athletes in outside basketball competition during the summer.
- (b) **Puerto Rico Superior Basketball League.** A student-athlete who is a resident of Puerto Rico may participate in the Superior Basketball League of Puerto Rico.
- (c) **United States vs. U.S. National Teams.** A student-athlete may participate in the United States against U.S. national teams.

**14.4.7.5.3 National-Team Criteria.** A national team shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) It is designated by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, national governing body or other organization recognized by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for 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 in that sport);
- (b) Selection for such a team is made on a national qualification basis either through a defined selective process or actual tryouts, publicly announced; and
- (c) The international competition in question requires that the entries officially represent their respective nations, although it is not necessary to require team scoring by nation.

**14.4.7.6 Collegiate All-Star Contests.** A student-athlete who competes as a member of a squad in any college all-star contest shall be denied further intercollegiate eligibility in that sport.

#### **14.4.8 Involvement with Professional Teams.**

##### **14.4.8.1 Tryouts.**

**14.4.8.1.1 Tryout After Enrollment.** A student-athlete may try out with a professional athletics team (or participate in a combine including that team) in a sport or permit a professional athletics team to conduct medical examinations at any time, provided the individual does not miss class. A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses related to the tryout from a professional sports organization, provided the tryout does not exceed 48 hours. The 48-hour tryout period begins at the time the individual arrives at the tryout location. At the completion of the 48-hour period, the individual must depart the location of the tryout immediately in order to receive return transportation expenses. A tryout may extend beyond 48 hours if the individual self-finances additional expenses, including return transportation.

**14.4.8.1.2 Outside Competition Prohibited.** During a tryout, an individual may not take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.

**14.4.8.2 Practice Without Competition.** Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate in practice sessions conducted by a professional team, provided such participation meets the requirements of NCAA legislation governing tryouts with professional athletics teams (see Bylaw **14.4.8.1.1** and the individual does not receive

any compensation or enter into a contract or agreement to practice or participate as a member of the professional athletics team. Such contracts or agreements would be separate from those that the individual may enter into with the professional team for name, image and likeness activities, as set forth in Bylaw 14.1.5.

#### **14.4.8.3 Competition.**

**14.4.8.3.1 Competition Against Professionals.** An individual may participate singly or as a member of an amateur team against professional athletes or professional teams.

**14.4.8.3.2 Competition With Professionals.** Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics in a sport, if the individual competed on a professional athletics team (per Bylaw 14.02.17) in that sport. However, an individual may compete on a tennis, golf, two-person beach volleyball or two-person synchronized diving team(s) with persons who are competing for cash or a comparable prize, provided the individual does not receive payment of any kind for such participation.

**14.4.8.3.2.1 Professional Player as Team Member.** Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate with a professional on a team, provided the professional is not being paid by a professional team or league to play as a member of that team (e.g., summer basketball leagues with teams composed of both professional and amateur athletes).

**14.4.8.3.2.2 Exception – Olympic, Paralympic or National Team.** It is permissible for an individual (prospective student-athlete or student-athlete) to participate on Olympic, Paralympic or national teams that are competing for prize money or are being compensated by the governing body to participate in a specific event, provided the individual does not accept prize money or any other compensation (other than actual or necessary expenses).

**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 Professional Coach or Referee.** Participation on a team that includes a professional coach or referee does not cause the team to be classified as a professional team.

**14.4.8.3.3 Competition in Professional All-Star Contest.** A student-athlete who agrees to participate in a professional (players to be paid) all-star game becomes ineligible to compete in any intercollegiate contest that occurs after that agreement.

Thus, a senior entering into such an agreement immediately after the last regular-season intercollegiate contest would not be eligible to compete in a bowl game or an NCAA championship.

**14.4.8.4 Athletics Eligibility Status if Professional in Another Sport.** A professional athlete in one sport may represent a member institution in a different sport. The institution may award institutional financial aid to a student-athlete, provided the student-athlete is not professional in the sport in which the student-athlete will participate at the certifying institution. However, a student-athlete who currently is receiving institutional financial aid and signs a contract in the same sport or receives compensation from an agent or a professional-sport organization may continue to receive such aid for the remainder of the term of the award, provided the student-athlete has completed their four seasons of competition. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.4.)

**14.4.8.4.1 Professional at Later Date.** If the individual later becomes involved in professional athletics while still a student-athlete with remaining eligibility, the individual would be considered to have violated the principles of ethical conduct per Bylaw 10, thus rendering the individual ineligible for intercollegiate competition.

#### **14.4.8.5 Draft and Inquiry.**

**14.4.8.5.1 Inquiry.** An individual may inquire of a professional sports organization about eligibility for a professional-league player draft or request information about the individual's market value without affecting their eligibility status.

**14.4.8.5.2 Draft List.** An enrolled student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft an unlimited number of times during their collegiate career and be drafted by any team in the league without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided the student-athlete does not ever agree (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purposes of marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport, sign a professional sport contract or otherwise jeopardize their eligibility status.

**14.4.8.5.3 Negotiations.** An individual may request information about professional market value without affecting their eligibility status. Further, the individual, their relatives or legal guardians, the institution's professional sports counseling panel or head coach may enter into negotiations with a professional sports organization without the loss of the individual's eligibility status. An individual who retains an agent in order to secure a professional sports opportunity shall lose eligibility status.

#### **14.4.8.6 Contracts and Compensation.**

**14.4.8.6.1 General Rule.** After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport, if they have entered

into any kind of agreement to compete in professional athletics, either orally or in writing, regardless of the legal enforceability of that agreement.

**14.4.8.6.1.1 Nonbinding Agreements.** After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual who signs a contract or commitment that does not become binding until the professional organization's representative or agent also signs the document is ineligible, even if the contract remains unsigned by the other parties until after the student-athlete's eligibility is exhausted.

#### **14.4.9 Use of Agents.**

**14.4.9.1 General Rule.** An individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport, if they ever have agreed (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purpose of marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport. Further, an agency contract not specifically limited in writing to a sport or particular sports shall be deemed applicable to all sports, and the individual shall be ineligible to participate in any sport.

**14.4.9.1.1 Nonbinding Agreements.** An individual who signs a contract or commitment that does not become binding until the agent also signs the document, is ineligible, even if the contract remains unsigned by the other parties until after the student-athlete's eligibility is exhausted.

**14.4.9.1.2 Representation for Future Negotiations.** An individual shall be ineligible per Bylaw 14.4.9.1, if they enter into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations that are to take place after the individual has completed their eligibility in that sport.

**14.4.9.1.3 Benefits From Prospective Agents.** An individual shall be ineligible per Bylaw 14.4.9.1, if they (or their relatives or friends) accept transportation or other benefits from:

- (a) Any person who represents any individual in the marketing of their athletics ability. The receipt of such expenses constitutes compensation based on athletics skill and is an extra benefit not available to the student body in general; or
- (b) An agent, even if they have indicated that they have no interest in representing the student-athlete in the marketing of their athletics ability or reputation and do not represent individuals in the student-athlete's sport.

**14.4.9.1.3.1 Educational Expenses or Services.** Receipt of educational expenses or services (e.g., tuition, fees, room and board, books, tutoring, standardized test preparatory classes) from an agent is specifically prohibited.

**14.4.9.1.4 Exception -- Career Counseling and Internship/Job Placement Services.** A student-athlete may use career counseling and internship/job placement services available exclusively to student-athletes, provided the student-athlete is not placed in a position in which the student-athlete uses their athletics ability.

**14.4.9.2 Legal Counsel.** Securing advice from a lawyer concerning a proposed professional sports contract shall not be considered contracting for representation by an agent under this rule, unless the lawyer also represents the student-athlete in negotiations for such a contract.

**14.4.9.2.1 Presence of a Lawyer at Negotiations.** A lawyer may not be present during discussions of a contract offer with a professional organization or have any direct contact (i.e., in person, by telephone or by mail) with a professional sports organization on behalf of the student-athlete. A lawyer's presence during such discussions is considered representation by an agent.

**14.4.9.3 Athletics Scholarship Agent.** Any individual, agency or organization that represents a prospective student-athlete for compensation in placing the prospective student-athlete in a collegiate institution as a recipient of institutional financial aid shall be considered an agent or organization marketing the individual's athletics ability or reputation.

**14.4.9.3.1 Talent Evaluation Services and Agents.** A prospective student-athlete may allow a scouting service or agent to distribute personal information (e.g., high school academic and athletics records, physical statistics) to member institutions without jeopardizing their eligibility, provided the fee paid to such an agent is not based on placing the prospective student-athlete in a collegiate institution as a recipient of institutional financial aid.

**14.4.9.4 Professional Sports Counseling Panel.** It is permissible for an institution to have an authorized institutional professional sports counseling panel appointed and overseen by the institution's president or chancellor (or their designated representative from outside the athletics department).



Current Bylaw Cite	Bylaw Name	New Bylaw Cite
7.4	Provisional Membership.	7.5
7.5	Active Division II Membership Following Reclassification.	7.6
7.6	Multidivision Classification.	7.7
7.7	Reclassification from Division II to Division I or Division III.	7.8
7.8	Institutional Eligibility.	7.9
12.01.1	Eligibility for Intercollegiate Athletics.	14.01.3
12.01.2	Clear Line of Demarcation.	14.01.1
12.01.3	“Individual” Versus “Student-Athlete.”	Eliminated
12.01.4	Permissible Grant-in-Aid.	Merged with 14.01.2.3
12.02.1	Agent.	14.02.2
12.02.1.1	Application.	Eliminated
12.02.2	Agency Contract.	14.02.3
12.02.3	Individual.	14.2.1
12.02.4	Professional Service Provider.	14.02.18
12.02.5	Pay.	14.02.15
12.02.6	Payment for Participation in Road Racing.	Merged with 14.4.6(a)
12.02.7	Professional Athlete.	14.02.16
12.02.8	Professional Athletics Team.	14.02.17
12.02.9	Student-Athlete.	14.02.23
12.02.10	Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming.	14.02.25
12.02.11	Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.	14.4.1
12.1	General Regulations.	Merged with 14.1
12.1.1	Validity of Eligibility Status.	14.1.1.2.1
12.1.1.1	NCAA Eligibility Center	Merged with 14.1.1.3
12.1.1.1.1	Scope.	14.1.1.2.2
12.1.1.1.2	Institutional Responsibilities.	14.1.1.4
12.1.1.1.2.1	Eligibility Status After Certification.	14.1.1.4.2
12.1.1.1.2.2	Sharing Information and Reporting Discrepancies.	14.1.1.4.3
12.1.1.1.3	Eligibility for Practice and Competition.	14.1.1.5
12.1.1.1.3.1	Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete.	14.1.1.5.1
12.1.1.1.3.1.1	Effect of Violation.	14.1.1.5.1.1
12.1.2	Name, Image and Likeness.	14.1.5
12.1.2.1	Application.	14.1.5.1
12.1.2.2	Name, Image and Likeness Activities Related to Enrollment Decisions.	14.1.5.2
12.1.2.3	Monitoring for Compliance.	14.1.5.3

12.1.2.4	Reporting Requirements.	14.1.5.4
12.1.3	Permissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment.	14.4.5
12.1.4	Impermissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment.	14.4.6
12.1.5	Athletics Eligibility Status if Professional in Another Sport.	14.4.8.4
12.1.5.1	Professional at Later Date.	14.4.8.4.1
12.2	Involvement with Professional Teams.	14.4.8
12.2.1	Tryouts.	14.4.8.1
12.2.1.1	Tryout After Enrollment.	14.4.8.1.1
12.2.1.2	Outside Competition Prohibited.	14.4.8.1.2
12.2.2	Practice Without Competition.	14.4.8.2
12.2.3	Competition.	14.4.8.3
12.2.3.1	Competition Against Professionals.	14.4.8.3.1
12.2.3.2	Competition With Professionals.	14.4.8.3.2
12.2.3.2.1	Professional Player as Team Member.	14.4.8.3.2.1
12.2.3.2.2	Exception – Olympic, Paralympic or National Teams.	14.4.8.3.2.2
12.2.3.2.3	Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey.	14.4.8.3.2.3
12.2.3.2.4	Professional Coach or Referee.	14.4.8.3.2.4
12.2.3.3	Competition in Professional All-Star Contest.	14.4.8.3.3
12.2.4	Draft and Inquiry.	14.4.8.5
12.2.4.1	Inquiry.	14.4.8.5.1
12.2.4.2	Draft List.	14.4.8.5.2
12.2.4.3	Negotiations.	14.4.8.5.3
12.2.5	Contracts and Compensation.	14.4.8.6
12.2.5.1	General Rule.	14.4.8.6.1
12.2.5.1.1	Nonbinding Agreements.	14.4.8.6.1.1
12.3	Use of Agents.	14.4.9
12.3.1	General Rule.	14.4.9.1
12.3.1.1	Nonbinding Agreements.	14.4.9.1.1
12.3.1.2	Representation for Future Negotiations.	14.4.9.1.2
12.3.1.3	Benefits From Prospective Agents.	14.4.9.1.3
12.3.1.3.1	Educational Expenses or Services.	14.4.9.1.3.1
12.3.1.4	Exception -- Career Counseling and Internship/Job Placement Services.	14.4.9.1.4
12.3.2	Legal Counsel.	14.4.9.2
12.3.2.1	Presence of a Lawyer at Negotiations.	14.4.9.2.1
12.3.3	Athletics Scholarship Agent.	14.4.9.3
12.3.3.1	Talent Evaluation Services and Agents.	14.4.9.3.1
12.3.4	Professional Sports Counseling Panel.	14.4.9.4
12.4	Employment.	Eliminated
12.4.1	Criteria Governing Compensation to Student-Athletes.	14.02.6
12.4.2	Specific Athletically Related Employment Activities.	14.02.22
12.4.2.1	National Team Practice and Competition.	14.02.22.1

12.4.2.2	Fee-for-Lesson Instruction.	14.02.22.2
12.6	Financial Donations from Outside Organizations.	7.4
12.6.1	Professional Sports Organizations.	7.4.1
12.6.1.1	To Noncollegiate Amateur Team.	7.4.1.1
12.6.1.2	To Intercollegiate Event.	7.4.1.2
12.6.1.3	Developmental Funds to NCAA.	7.4.1.3
12.6.1.4	To Institution.	7.4.1.4
12.6.1.5	To Conference.	7.4.1.5
12.6.1.6	Revenues Derived from Pro-Am Events.	7.4.1.6
12.6.1.7	Promotion of Professional Athletics Contests.	7.4.1.7
12.6.2	Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.	7.4.2
12.6.2.1	Individual Athletics Performance.	7.4.2.1
12.6.2.2	Individual and Team Rankings.	7.4.2.2
12.6.2.3	Academic Performance.	7.4.2.3
14.01.1	Institutional Responsibility.	14.01.4
14.01.2	Academic Status.	Merged with 14.02.9
14.01.2.1	Good Academic Standing.	Merged with 14.02.9
14.01.3	Compliance With Other NCAA and Conference Legislation.	14.01.2
14.01.3.1	Amateurism.	Eliminated
14.01.3.2	Impermissible Benefits.	14.01.2.1
14.01.3.3	Unethical Conduct.	14.01.2.2
14.01.3.4	Financial Aid.	14.01.2.3
14.01.3.5	Recruitment.	14.01.2.4
14.02.1	Academic Misconduct -- Post-Enrollment.	Same (14.02.1)
14.02.2	Branch School.	14.02.4
14.02.3	Religious Mission, Official.	14.02.20
14.02.4	Collegiate Institution.	14.02.5
14.02.5	Education-Impacting Disability.	14.02.7
14.02.6	Exception.	14.02.8
14.02.7	Good Academic Standing and Progress Toward Degree.	14.02.9
14.02.8	Impermissible Academic Assistance – Institutional Staff.	14.02.11
14.02.9	Institutional Staff Member.	14.2.10.1
14.02.9.1	Student Employee.	14.2.10.1.1
14.02.10	Intercollegiate Competition.	14.02.12
14.01.10.1	Exempted Events.	14.02.12.1
14.02.10.2	Exemption -- Tryouts.	14.02.12.2
14.02.11	National Team.	14.02.13
14.02.12	Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics.	14.02.14
14.02.13	Qualification Status.	14.02.19
14.02.13.1	Qualifier.	14.02.19.1
14.02.13.2	Partial Qualifier.	14.02.19.2
14.02.14	Residence.	14.02.21

14.02.14.1	Academic Year of Residence.	14.02.21.1
14.02.15	Grade-Point Average.	14.02.10
14.02.16	Transfer Student.	14.02.24
14.02.17	Waiver.	14.02.26
14.1.1	Postseason and Regular-Season Competition.	14.4.2
14.1.1.1	Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs.	14.4.2.1
14.1.2.5.1	Institutional Responsibility.	14.1.1.4.1
14.1.3	Student-Athlete Statement.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.3.1	Content and Purpose.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.3.2	Administration.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.3.3	Institutional Responsibility -- Notification of Positive Test.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4	Drug-Testing Consent Form.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4.1	Content and Purpose.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4.2	Administration.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.4.3	Exception -- 14-Consecutive Calendar Day Grace Period.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.5	Student-Athlete Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Authorization/Buckley Amendment Consent Form -- Disclosure of Protected Health Information.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.5.1	Content and Purpose.	Eliminated; recommend

		going to Bylaw 7
14.1.5.2	Administration.	Eliminated; recommend going to Bylaw 7
14.1.6	Academic Eligibility	14.2
14.1.6.1	Admission.	14.2.2
14.1.6.1.1	Graduate Student Exception.	14.2.2.1
14.1.7	Full-Time Enrollment.	14.2.3
14.1.8	Graduate/Postbaccalaureate/Second Baccalaureate Participation.	14.2.4
14.1.8.1	Transfer Exception.	14.2.4.1
14.1.8.1.1	Disciplinary Suspension.	14.2.4.1.1
14.1.8.2	International Student Exception.	Removed; recommend moving to ARC's policies and procedures
14.1.8.3	NCAA Championship Following Last Term of Eligibility.	14.2.4.2
14.1.9	Change in Eligibility Status.	14.2.5
14.1.10	Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice with Women's Teams.	14.2.6
14.1.11	Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.	14.2.7
14.2	Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.	14.4.3
14.2.4.7	Intercollegiate Competition.	Eliminated
14.2.4.8	Foreign-Tour Competition.	14.4.3.4.7
14.3	Freshman Academic Requirements.	14.2.8
14.4	Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.	14.2.9
14.5	Transfer Regulations.	14.3
14.7	Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility.	14.4.7
14.8	Additional Waivers for Eligibility Requirements.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.8.1	Management Council Waivers.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location

14.8.1.1	Academic and General Requirements.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.8.2	Committee for Legislative Relief Waivers.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.8.2.1	Residence Requirement.	Eliminated; recommend referring to ARC and CLR to determine appropriate location
14.9	Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.	14.2.10.4
14.9.1	Policies and Procedures.	14.2.10.3
14.9.1.1	Exception.	14.2.10.3.1
14.9.2	Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.	14.2.10.4
14.10	U.S. Service Academies, Special Eligibility Provisions.	14.4.4
14.10.1	10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.	14.4.4.1
14.10.2	Service Academies.	14.3.3.5
14.11	Certification of Eligibility.	14.1.2
14.12	Ineligibility.	14.1.3
14.13	Restoration of Eligibility.	14.1.4

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# DI Council introduces proposals to boost student-athlete NIL protections

*Measures include development of registry for service providers to help weed out bad actors*

The Division I Council on Tuesday unanimously voted to introduce several proposals intended to enhance student-athlete protections regarding their name, image and likeness rights. The move will not be final until the conclusion of the council meeting Wednesday.

The proposals stem from discussions held by the council's NIL Working Group, which hosted a summit in July with various stakeholders, including college athletes, service providers and campus administrators. Student-athlete protections were among the topics discussed that garnered the greatest level of support. The council noted that the working group continues to discuss additional policies focused on the recruiting landscape and the role schools can or should play in NIL activities of college athletes.

"After watching the NIL landscape develop, NCAA members have identified additional resources for student-athletes so they can make informed decisions about their NIL activities," said Lynda Tealer, chair of the DI Council, chair of the working group and deputy athletics director at Florida. "Division I members support college athletes benefiting from the use of their name, image and likeness to the fullest extent, and in no way intend to limit their potential. It is our hope that these changes will improve outcomes for student-athletes and help campus leaders navigate this issue with greater clarity."

The proposals, which could be adopted in January, include development of a voluntary registry for NIL service providers; requirements for disclosure and aggregate reporting of certain elements of NIL agreements; development of best practices for NIL contracts; and the creation of an education program for prospects and current student-athletes, as well as service providers and licensees.

"We are encouraged that council is focusing first and foremost on protecting student-athletes in the rapidly changing NIL environment," said Morgyn Wynne, vice chair of the Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. "Registration and education of those providing information to student-athletes, required disclosure of major NIL deals, standard terms that student-athletes can easily understand and, most importantly, student-athlete education are all necessary elements to stabilize the NIL environment for student-athletes."

"Today's action by the DI Council is a great step toward achieving our shared priority at the NCAA, which is better outcomes for all college athletes who participate in NIL activities," said NCAA President Charlie Baker. "As the Association makes these changes to improve the environment for young people with NCAA rules, I look forward to partnering with members of Congress to build on these protections and create greater consistency and opportunities for all college athletes."

### **Registration of NIL service providers**

Agents, financial advisors and others who support college athletes in NIL arrangements would be able to voluntarily register with the NCAA. Information supplied — including business and education background of providers, service descriptions and fee structure — would then be published in a centralized registry for student-athletes to access as they consider service provider selections.

Within that same centralized registry, student-athletes could have the ability to review and/or rate their own experiences with those service providers (similar to a "rate my professor" platform for college students).

The registration process could also include a dispute resolution system ("grievance hotline") for student-athletes experiencing issues with service providers.

The council noted these provisions will help student-athletes, their families and others weed out potential bad actors.

### **Disclosure and transparency**

For any NIL agreements exceeding a certain value (e.g., \$600) student-athletes would be required to report specified information — possibly including a description of the arrangement, compensation received, services rendered, term length, etc. — to their school within 30 days of entering into or signing an agreement. If a service provider (i.e., agent) is involved in arranging an NIL deal, the name of the provider and nature of their agreement would also be disclosed.

For prospects, all current or previous NIL arrangements would be disclosed to a school prior to the school issuing a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletics aid.

Information reported to schools would then be deidentified and aggregated by campuses and reported to the national office (or a third-party designee) at least twice per year.

"The more information we have about national trends and how NIL arrangements are being implemented at a local level, the better equipped the entire NCAA will be in responding to create appropriate policies or regulations," Tealer said. "Again, these efforts are not intended to make judgments on 'market value' or restrict student-athlete opportunities. Collecting these data will help everyone involved make informed decisions on future governance decisions should they be necessary."

As part of the reporting process, schools and student-athletes would be required to attest that the information is complete and accurate, that no staff members at the school promised benefits related



to NIL as a condition of enrolling or remaining at a school, and that all relationships comply with NCAA rules and applicable federal, state and local laws.

### **Standardized contract terms**

The NCAA would recommend the use of specific contractual terms and information in all NIL agreements, with the purpose of helping student-athletes and their families understand what is included and expected in specific transactions.

Possible terms/information would include:

- Description of services to be performed.
- Payment structure (fee ranges, amount of compensation).
- Duration of contract.
- Termination clause for breach of contract.
- Student-athlete right to terminate contract at conclusion of NCAA eligibility.
- Attestation of acknowledgement that pay is being provided for work performed and not athletics participation.
- Attestation that compensation provided is not a recruiting inducement.

### **Student-athlete education**

The final proposal to be considered next year would develop a comprehensive plan to produce educational resources, to be reevaluated regularly to ensure that those resources are up-to-date and reflective of the NIL environment.

Among the concepts for education are:

- The regulatory environment in federal, state and local laws and how those laws intersect with NCAA rules.
- An overview of types of NIL opportunities that exist for college athletes, including work product, group licenses and individual licenses.
- Education on elements of NIL agreements, including how to read contracts, awareness of arbitration provisions, taxable income, selection of service providers (agents, financial advisors, etc.), and other topics.
- Generating marketing opportunities through the development of a personal brand and social and digital media.
- Balancing sports, self-care and NIL opportunities.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II COMMITTEE FOR LEGISLATIVE RELIEF  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief information standards, guidelines and directives.
  - (1) Recommendation. Approve the updated Committee for Legislative Relief information standards, guidelines and directives, as specified. [See Attachment]
  - (2) Effective date. Immediate.
  - (3) Rationale. The Committee for Legislative Relief'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 of 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 14.2.4.2 (participation in organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment), amendments were made to reflect recent legislative changes tied to amateurism certification reviews performed by the NCAA Eligibility Center and to acknowledge the addition of the new sport of stunt.

Further, during its review of areas related to legislative relief waivers involving Bylaw 14.5.5 (four-year college transfers), the committee determined that amendments were warranted when considering the unique circumstances surrounding the necessity for four-year college student-athletes to transfer. During its review, the committee determined that it would be appropriate to establish a guideline to address instances when there is an assertion that a student-athlete experienced personal hardship which necessitated their transfer as this would create an expanded lens in the waiver review process and eliminate overly prescriptive and cumbersome documentation requirements. The committee noted that areas of personal hardship to be considered include, but are not limited to, injury/illness or financial hardship. In addition, the committee established

a directive which would allow staff to approve select cases where a student-athlete asserts that their necessity to transfer is tied to academic reasons, noting that this change would enhance the Association's mission of highlighting the importance of academics. Finally, the committee established directives for staff to address instances where a Division II student-athlete transfers without providing written notification of transfer by the June 15 deadline and their previous institution does not support the waiver request. These additions will help provide guidance during reviews of specific cases where a student-athlete may not meet a legislated four-year college transfer exception, but the institution is able to provide sufficient mitigation to show the necessity of the student-athlete's transfer.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of Committee for Legislative Relief cases decided from February 1 through July 31, 2023, by the NCAA staff and committee.** The committee reviewed cases decided by staff and the committee from February 1 through July 31, 2023. A total of 94 cases were submitted in Division II with 69 of those cases decided by staff during this time period. Of the 69 cases decided, staff approved 46 cases, 10 of which were approved with conditions. There were two cases approved based on the totality of the circumstances, with the committee affirming staff's position in both cases. Additionally, staff denied 16 cases, four of which were appealed to the committee. The committee affirmed the staff decision in three cases and overturned staff's decision in one case.
2. **Review of Committee for Legislative Relief information standards, guidelines and directives.** During its March 2023 videoconference, the committee discussed and provided feedback on amendments to its information standards, guidelines and directives. The committee reviewed the changes and recommended a nonlegislative change to its information standards, guidelines and directives, specifically: (1) Amend the guidance related to legislative relief waivers involving Bylaw 14.2.4.2 to encompass recent legislative changes tied to amateurism certification review and to reflect the addition of the sport of stunt; (2) Eliminate the previous information standards, guidelines and directives tied to transfers asserting misinformation, injury/illness and financial hardship; (3) Establish an information standard, guideline and directive to address assertions related to personal hardship experienced by the student-athlete which necessitated their transfer; (4) Amend the directive related to academic reasons for transfer to provide guidance to staff on when such assertions may be considered when approving a legislative relief waiver request; and (5) Incorporate previously provided guidance from the committee to address transfers involving a Division II student-athlete that does not provide written notification of transfer by the June 15 deadline and where a student-athlete transfers, but their previous institution does not support the waiver request. [See Nonlegislative Action Item.]

3. **Review of 2024 NCAA Convention proposals.** Staff provided a review of the five proposals that will be voted on by the Division II membership at the 2024 Convention. None of the proposals are expected to impact legislative relief waiver volume.
4. **Discussion regarding whether a member of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) should be added to the composition of the Committee for Legislative Relief.** The committee discussed and provided feedback on a referral from the Division II SAAC. Specifically, the committee was asked to provide feedback on whether there is a need to update the committee's composition to include a Division II National SAAC member since the committee does not currently include a student-athlete representative. The committee agreed that the addition of the student-athlete perspective during its reviews would be beneficial; however, the committee raised concerns regarding the time commitment for participation in the committee's discussions and potential issues related to confidentiality given the sensitive nature of the committee's work.
5. **Review of Committee for Legislative Relief policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved an updated version of its policies and procedures.
6. **Review of the Committee for Legislative Relief March 23, 2023, videoconference and June 30, 2023, electronic voting reports.** The committee reviewed and approved its March 23, 2023, videoconference and June 30, 2023, electronic voting reports, as written.
7. **Review of the Division II priorities.** Staff provided an overview of the Division II priorities for the 2023-24 academic year.
8. **Update on the Division II 50th Anniversary celebration.** Staff provided an update regarding the plan to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Division II for the 2023-24 academic year.
9. **Review of the summer 2023 NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council summary of actions.** The committee reviewed the summary of actions from the 2023 summer meetings of the Management Council and Presidents Council.
10. **Review of the Committee for Legislative Relief roster.** The committee reviewed the updated roster.
11. **Other business.** The committee discussed and agreed to transition its weekly scheduled appeal calls from teleconferences to videoconferences, effective immediately.
12. **Future scheduled videoconferences.**
  - a. March 2024; videoconference, to be determined.
  - b. September/October 2024; videoconference, 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 Committee for Legislative Relief September 28, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Ellen Fagerstrom, Minnesota State University Moorhead.	
Rob Fiedler, University of Tampa.	
Marlon Furlongue, St. Mary's University (Texas).	
Marcie Haduca Covell, California State University, East Bay.	
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg 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>	
Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Becca Burchette Medel, Angela Red and Drea Rog.	



**NCAA DIVISION II COMMITTEE FOR LEGISLATIVE RELIEF  
INFORMATION STANDARDS, GUIDELINES AND DIRECTIVES  
(Updated September 2023)**

The NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief, formerly the NCAA Division II Management Council Administrative Review Subcommittee, 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 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 14.**

**Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment [NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.2] – 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 Committee for Legislative Relief (hereinafter referred to as committee) when considering an institution's request to grant relief of the application of Bylaw 14.2.4.2 (participation in organized competition or training prior to 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 and year in residence.**

- 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 20 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 and academic year in residence may be granted. See the 20-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.**

- a. 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.
- b. Business and Technology Educational Council coursework. During the October 2008 NCAA International Student Records Committee meeting, it was determined that effective August 1, 2011 (for prospective student-athletes enrolling on or after August 1, 2011), Business and Technology Educational Council coursework would be considered a category-three document and will not advance a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date even if the prospective student-athlete advances in the structure within the prescribed timeframe. This change was enacted following questions from the membership related to very few courses, offered through the Business and Technology Educational Council, meeting the NCAA definition of core course (making them nonapplicable to initial eligibility requirements). Since its October 2008 meeting, the staff has communicated this change to the membership (e.g., International Student Records Committee meeting report, regional rules seminars, AMA Education on Demand video, NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility). Such requests shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

**5. Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.3.1 (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 14.2.4.2.1.3.1 (exception to the academic year-in-residence requirement for transfer student-athletes) and Assertions of Misinformation, Lack of Information and Institutional Error.

Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.3.1 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:

- (1) 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.

- (2) 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.
- (3) 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).
- (4) 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.
- (5) 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.
- (6) 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 14.2.4.2 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.
- 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 14.2.4.2.3);
  - (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
  - (3) Misinformation or a lack of information provided from institutional personnel. An institution that asserts relief should be provided because of misinformation or lack of information that was provided from institutional

personnel to the prospective student-athlete during the recruitment process (except for waivers involving Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.3.1).

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 14.2.4.2 – 20% 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		3
Baseball	10	
Basketball	6	
Beach Volleyball		4
Bowling, Women's		7
Cross Country		2
Equestrian		3
Fencing		3
Field Hockey	5	
Football	3	
Golf		5
Gymnastics		3
Ice Hockey, Men's	7	
Ice Hockey, Women's	7	
Lacrosse		4
Rifle		4
Rowing, Women's		4
Rugby, Women's		4
Skiing		4 (Alpine) 4 (Nordic)
Soccer	5	
Softball	12	
Stunt		4
Swimming and Diving		4
Tennis		5
Track and Field (Indoor and Outdoor)		4
Triathlon, Women's		2
Volleyball, Men's		7
Volleyball, Women's		6
Water Polo		5
Wrestling, Men's		4
Wrestling, Women's		4

\* 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 Year-in-Residence Legislation [Bylaw 14.5] – Information Standards, Guidelines and Directives.**

In May 2020, the Committee for Legislative Relief 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 for Legislative Relief discussed the relief that may be provided for waivers involving Bylaw 14.5.5 (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 for Legislative Relief discussed the relief that may be provided for waivers involving Bylaw 14.5.5 (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:
    - (a) This is the student-athlete's first four-year transfer;
    - (b) The student-athlete departed the previous Division II institution in good academic standing and meeting all progress-toward-degree requirements;
    - (c) 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

- (d) 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 for Legislative Relief discussed the relief that may be provided for waivers involving Bylaw 14.5.5 (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.

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) 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.

- (5) 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 14.5.5.4).

- (1) In September 2017, the Committee for Legislative Relief 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.
- (2) 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.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Identify active member host institutions for provisional year one institutions.** Per the NCAA Division II membership process, provisional year one institutions must participate in a visit to an active member institution's campus in year one of the process. The Membership Committee selected Biola University as the host institution for Jessup University; Dominican University of California as the host institution for Menlo College; Davenport University as the host institution for Roosevelt University; West Texas A&M University as the host institution for Sul Ross State University; and Concordia University Irvine as the host institution for Vanguard University.

[Note: Debbie Snell, executive director of athletics, Hawaii Pacific University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Jessup University, Menlo College and Vanguard University; and Keri Becker, director of athletics, Grand Valley State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Roosevelt University.]

2. **Discussion regarding a request from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) to consider an expedited process for institutions that meet predetermined benchmarks in the provisional membership process.** The committee continued its discussion regarding a request from the Division II CCA that the committee consider an expedited, two-year process for institutions that meet predetermined benchmarks in the membership process. As requested during its July 2023 in-person meeting, NCAA staff provided an overview of waiver requests that have been submitted and reviewed, specific to the membership process. The committee noted the challenges in membership sustainability and the potential pain points for institutions considering Division II membership. The committee agreed to continue this conversation during its November videoconference.
3. **Discussion regarding whether a member of the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) should be added to the composition of the NCAA Division II Membership Committee.** The committee discussed and provided feedback on a referral from the Division II SAAC. Specifically, the committee was asked to provide feedback on whether there is a need to update the committee's composition to include a Division II National SAAC member since the committee does not currently include a student-athlete representative. The committee agreed that the student-athlete voice is important; however, raised concerns regarding the increased time commitment that service on this committee requires and whether the experience on this committee would be impactful and rewarding for student-athletes given the committee's areas of purview.

4. **Update on the Division II Compliance Blueprint Review Program.** The committee received an update regarding the status of the compliance blueprint review program for the 2023-24 academic year. Specifically, it was noted that up to 16 reviews will be conducted and the process to request a review opened in Program Hub in late September.
5. **Active member issues.** The committee received an update on the potential merger between Bloomfield College and Montclair State University (Division III). Specifically, it was noted that Bloomfield College is operating as a Division II athletics program for the 2023-24 academic year. In addition, the committee received an update that Alderson Broaddus University discontinued its athletics program and subsequently closed the institution in August 2023.
6. **Review of 2024 NCAA Convention Division II proposals.** Staff provided an overview of the five legislative proposals that will be voted on by the Division II membership at the 2024 Convention. The proposals include three sponsored by the NCAA Division II Presidents Council and two sponsored by the membership.
7. **Recap of provisional year one orientation videoconference.** The committee provided feedback regarding the agenda and programming from the September 13, 2023, provisional year one orientation videoconference.
8. **Update on spring 2024 campus visit schedule.** Staff provided the committee with an update regarding the provisional year one visits to Jessup University, Menlo College, Roosevelt University, Sul Ross State University and Vanguard University.
9. **Approval of the July 11-12, 2023, in-person meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved its July 11-12, 2023, in-person meeting report.
10. **Review of the 2023-24 Division II Priorities.** The committee received an update on the Division II priorities for the 2023-24 academic year.
11. **Update on the work of the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the Board of Governors most recent meeting.
12. **Review of the summer 2023 NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council summary of actions.** Staff provided an update from the summer 2023 meetings of the Management Council and Presidents Council.
13. **Update on NCAA Division II 50th Anniversary Celebration.** Staff provided an update regarding the plan to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Division II for the 2023-24 academic year.

**14. Future scheduled meetings/videoconferences.**

- a. November 8, 2023, videoconference; timing to be determined.
- b. February 13, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
- c. April 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.
- d. July 9-10, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair: Debbie Snell, Hawaii Pacific University*

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

*Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division II Membership Committee September 25, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Michael Bazemore, Montana State University Billings.	
Keri Becker, Grand Valley State University.	
Melanie Brunsdon, Winona State University.	
Troy Dell, Frostburg State University.	
Robert Mallory, Missouri Southern State University.	
Jessica McIntyre, Lee University.	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Thomas Newsom, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
Will Prewitt, Great American Conference.	
Debbie Snell, Hawaii Pacific University.	
Christie Ward, Catawba College.	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels and Jordan Lysiak.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Dana Conner, Terri Steeb Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Becca Burchette Medel, Angela Red and Aundrea Rog.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 16, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council and Presidents Council approve the amended Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles as presented in the Attachment.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Planning and Finance Committee reviews and approves the guidelines and principles to ensure that they are kept up to date and meet the Division II philosophy, strategic plan and positioning platform. The committee during its April meeting agreed to amend the document by updating the revenue distribution language to remove the minimum amount for revenue distribution and add the yearly distribution amount with the breakdown of how it is distributed. The Attachment reflects these updates.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Calculating Division II Projected Revenue.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Presidents Council approve a method for calculating Division II's projected revenue that takes Division II's prior year actual revenue plus Division II's allocation of change from the media agreements to calculate the Division II estimated revenue in the long-range budget.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The recommended method is what the division used prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the cancellation of the Division I Men's Basketball Championship in 2020 that resulted in the Association receiving reduced revenue, Division II updated its long-range budget to mirror anticipated revenue as outlined in the Association's 10-year financial model. In that model, media rights revenues are based on actual amounts during the various contract periods, which is a more conservative approach. Upon review, however, the Planning and Finance Committee believes the



previous method that takes Division II's prior year actual revenue plus Division II's allocation of change from the media agreements to calculate the Division II estimated revenue in the long-range budget provides a more accurate assessment for planning purposes and should be re-engaged going forward.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and Review of Agenda.** Planning and Finance Committee Chair Colleen Perry Keith welcomed the group and previewed the meeting agenda.

2. **Review of Previous Reports.** The committee approved the report from its April 20 videoconference, as presented.

### **3. Division II Conference Strategic Priorities Fund.**

a. **Guidelines and Principles.** The committee received an overview of the guidelines and principles for the Conference Strategic Priorities Fund that were updated from the committee's April meeting. The document governs the Conference Strategic Priorities Fund and provides the direction for how staff is to evaluate each conference's report.

b. **2022-23 Conference Strategic Priorities Fund Reports.** The committee reviewed summaries of the 23 conference reports. The committee also was provided a summary of carryover dollars requested, and the staff's recommendations on whether to approve the report or have the committee review additional information. After review, the committee voted to approve all 23 reports.

c. **Fines for Late Submissions.** The committee noted that all 23 conferences submitted their grant reports by the deadline. No action was necessary.

d. **Special Recognition for 2022-23.** The committee approved dividing the \$10,000 allocation provided to recognize exemplary programming equally among the six conferences recommended (\$1,666.66 per conference). (Note: Committee members from the conferences selected recused themselves during the voting process.)

Conference (Strategic Positioning Outcome Area)	Initiative/Program Recognized
California Collegiate Athletic Association (Academics and Life Skills)	Community Engagement Event with Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (Game Day, Conference and National Championships)	Community Engagement in Conjunction with CIAA Basketball Tournaments

Conference Carolinas (Game Day, Conference and National Championships)	Second Annual Spirit Championship.
Great Lakes Valley Conference (Academics and Life Skills)	Student-Athlete Leadership Summit
Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (Diversity and Inclusion)	Workshop Designed to Benefit Women in the Workplace
Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (Game Day, Conference and National Championships)	Player 2 Referee Clinic

The committee also agreed to discuss at a future meeting how best to use these dollars going forward. The award was established initially to incentivize creativity among conferences to develop unique and meaningful programming. As time has passed, however, and as conferences have consistently demonstrated thoughtful approaches to programming, the Planning and Finance Committee agreed to discuss whether the award is still necessary or whether the funds could be devoted to other purposes that benefit the division and/or membership.

4. **Conference Strategic Priorities Fund Audit Program.** The committee received an overview of the conference audit process that has been conducted by the NCAA's internal audit team since 2011-12. To date, every Division II conference has gone through the audit process at least once (the current procedure is for three conferences to be selected at random each year). The purpose of the audits as established was to ensure fiscal responsibility for a significant portion of the Division II budget, as well as to provide a beneficial educational tool for conference personnel. The committee also received a presentation from members of the internal audit team regarding conference audit best practices, and discussed feedback from conference offices regarding the audit process.

The comprehensive review prompted a discussion of the program's merits and whether any changes are warranted. The committee noted that the audit process as structured serves as the final step in a checks-and-balances system that already includes a baseline requirement that conferences annually conduct an external audit on their own and submit management letters that would indicate whether any additional action should be taken (i.e., conducting a secondary "for cause" audit). The committee believes that requirement, along with the reporting forms that staff review annually, provides sufficient guardrails to protect the integrity of the Conference Strategic Priorities Fund. After a lengthy discussion, the committee agreed that continuing to select three conferences randomly each year to go through the NCAA audit is no longer necessary. The committee believes the checks and balances leading up to the random audit process have in and of themselves proven to be an effective protective measure over time. Accordingly, the committee agreed to discontinue the random audit process but retain the authority to conduct an audit should a "for cause" situation arise.

5. **Affiliate Organization Reports.** The committee received summaries of the reports from the seven affiliate organizations. After discussion, the committee approved a \$75,000 grant to each of the following organizations: Division II Athletics Directors Association; Division II

Conference Commissioners Association; College Sports Communicators; Division II Faculty Athletics Representative Association; Minority Opportunities Athletics Association; National Association of Athletics Compliance; and Women Leaders in College Sports.

6. **Budget-to-Actuals Report.** The committee reviewed the budget-to-actual report for the period ending May 31, 2023.
7. **Updated Budget Guidelines and Principles.** The committee reviewed the updated Division II budget guidelines and principles that removed the minimum amount for revenue distribution and added the yearly distribution amount with the breakdown of how it is distributed. The committee voted to submit the updated document to the Management Council and Presidents Council for review during their October meetings (see Action Item 2-a).
8. **Calculating Division II Projected Revenue.** The committee received an overview of how the division has calculated projected revenue over time, noting that the procedure underwent significant change because of the pandemic and has not been altered since. After discussion, the committee agreed that reverting to the process used before the pandemic provides the most accurate assessment and voted to ask the Presidents Council to approve using that process going forward (see Action Item 2-b).
9. **2026-32 Division II Strategic Plan SWOT and Timeline.** The committee received summaries of the follow-up SWOT analyses with Division II governance committees over the past eight months and reviewed an updated timeline for the 2026-32 Division II Strategic Plan that the Management and Presidents Councils approved during their summer meetings. The Planning and Finance Committee endorsed the new timeline (see Attachment B) and agreed that it provides a logical progression that positions the Division II governance structure and the Division II membership to develop goals and strategies for future success. Staff noted that work already has begun internally to group feedback obtained through the SWOT analyses into broader themes and related goals that the committee will be able to review during its September videoconference.

**10. Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- September 20, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
- December 13, 2:30 to 4 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).

*Committee Chair:* Colleen Perry Keith, President, Goldey-Beacom College

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

Maritza Jones, Division II Governance

Ryan Jones, Division II Governance

Andrea Worlock, Administrative Services

Division II Planning and Finance Committee August 16, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Carlos Campo, Ashland University.	
Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University.	
Frank Wu, Queens College (New York).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Mark Corino, Caldwell University.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Steven Shirley, Minot State University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones and Andrea Worlock.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, Clint Hangebrauck, Ann Martin, Kendee Hilliard, Jill Waddell and Caryl West.	

## Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles

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

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

These principles/guidelines include the following:

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

the division. The Planning and Finance Committee shall, however, have the ability to address items related to gender equity or health and safety brought forth outside of the normal budget process, and recommend any such items to the Presidents Council, which allows the division to address any immediate needs related to championships that may come forth between budget proposal years.

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

7. For programs and other strategic initiatives, the division shall operate on an annual budget process. The Planning and Finance Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council may review such budget requests prior to final approval by the Presidents Council [Note that in some instances it may be necessary to use the legislative process.]
8. That ~~That, at a minimum, \$5.1 million~~ there will ~~be an annual~~ be distribution ~~of funds~~ ~~distributed annually~~ to Division II institutions and conferences via the ~~approved~~ Division II Revenue Distribution ~~Policy~~ ~~Policy~~. The formula(s) shall include a principal goal of strengthening conference and institutional operations.

For the 2023-24 Fiscal Year, the total budget for the distribution will be \$7,930,033, distributed as follows:

a. Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund: \$5,947,525; and

~~a.b.~~ Institutional Equal Distribution Fund: \$1, 982,508.

9. That the Division II Planning and Finance Committee will be responsible for the mechanics of distributing the revenue distribution, and the distribution policy will be reviewed annually by the Division II Planning and Finance Committee.
10. That the Division II cash reserve maintains a balance of at least 60 percent of the operating revenue for the division. The balance shall include the prior year's cash reserve and the current year's budget surplus.
11. That the Division II Administrative Committee shall be gathered to address issues in light of an unexpected event to determine the use of Division II insurance and reserve dollars. As needed, the Administrative Committee will seek input from the Division II Presidents Council and NCAA Board of Governors. Further, the division shall prioritize expenses in the following order:
  - a. Contractual obligations.
  - b. Championships.

- (1) Bracket reduction.
    - (2) Experience monies.
      - (a) Game experience.
        - (i) Official's assignments and fees.
        - (ii) Practice days and/or days off between competition days.
        - (iii) Web stream.
        - (iv) Marketing and promotion.
        - (v) Signage.
      - (b) Student-athlete experience.
        - (i) Trophies.
        - (ii) Awards (participant medallions).
        - (iii) Banquets.
        - (iv) Mementos (jackets, for example).
        - (v) Watches.
    - (3) Adjustment of regional sites.
    - (4) Reduction of per diem.
  - c. Revenue distribution.
  - d. Conference strategic priorities fund.
  - e. Strategic initiatives.
- 12. That the use of the annual operating surpluses from the previous fiscal year will be adopted each year by the Presidents Council.
  - 13. That the division (including colleges, universities and conferences) shall commit to fiscal responsibility at the local, conference, regional and national levels and that the division shall be held accountable for spending its dollars in a fiscally responsible manner. To that end, the Planning and Finance Committee has the authority to audit dollars allocated to Division II institutions and conferences from the Division II budget, including, but not limited to, sports sponsorship requirements of Division II member conferences.
  - 14. That care will be taken to avoid funding special interests of various segments of the Division II membership or items that may be more an institution's or conference's responsibility than that of the Association or the division.
  - 15. That Division II will follow the Association's request for proposal (RFP) process when the division has specific vendor relationships and/or consultant needs.
  - 16. That these budget principles will be reviewed annually by the Planning and Finance Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council and modified as necessary to ensure that they are reflective of the Division II philosophy, strategic positioning platform

and strategic plan. The Presidents Council has ultimate authority to approve the modifications to these guidelines and principles.

*Approved April 2023 by the Division II Planning and Finance Committee and Presidents Council.*





REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Division II Participation in the NCAA's Insurance Program.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve that Division II participate in the following policies within the NCAA's Insurance Program: (a) ticket and ancillary revenue insurance; and (b) media broadcast revenue insurance; approve the Division II premium allocation amount for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24); and approve that Division II should continue to participate in these programs going forward as outlined in FY23 and FY24 without review each year unless something in either program changes.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Planning and Finance Committee conducted its annual review of Division II's participation in the NCAA's insurance program and agreed to recommend that the division continue participating in the ticket and ancillary revenue and media broadcast revenue portions but not the event cancellation portion. As with the committee's recommendation last year, members maintain their belief that the overall cost to participate in the event cancellation portion (\$911,276) far exceeds the potential risk to the division, and that given the division's current reserve amount, Division II should not participate. Finally, the committee recommends that the division continue to participate in these programs going forward as outlined in FY23 and FY24 without review each year unless something in either program changes. In such case, the committee will be asked to consider whether and how Division II should participate and then make a recommendation to the Management Council and Presidents Council.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. With this recommendation for FY24, Division II will have the same coverage limit as FY23 at the same premium amount (\$133,810).
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Division II Long-Range Budget.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the revised Division II long-range budget through 2031-32, as presented in the Attachment A.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. The revised long-range budget reflects the committee's action in August to apply a method for calculating Division II's projected revenue that takes Division II's prior year actual revenue plus Division II's allocation of change from the media agreements to calculate the Division II estimated revenue in the long-range budget. The method is what the division used prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and provides a more accurate assessment for planning purposes. Finally, the revised long-range budget updates the Assumptions document with budget approvals to fiscal year 2023-24 and removes previous fiscal years references.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. **Welcome and Review of Agenda.** Planning and Finance Committee Chair Colleen Perry Keith welcomed the group and previewed the meeting agenda.
- 2. **Review of Previous Reports.** The committee approved the report from its August 16 videoconference as presented.
- 3. **Update on the Post-Eligibility Insurance Program.** David Lafiosca, NCAA controller and managing director, joined the meeting to provide an update on the NCAA's Post-Eligibility Insurance Program. The NCAA Board of Governors authorized post-eligibility insurance coverage for student-athletes beginning August 1, 2024. The coverage, which applies to schools in all three divisions, will be for two years after student-athletes complete their college athletics experience and will cover injuries that occur while playing for their school.

The coverage plan was among recommendations from the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee regarding the holistic student-athlete benefits model that guarantees college athletes will have increased access to medical coverage for athletically related injuries for a minimum of two years after graduation or completion of their athletics experience. The policy's annual premium is projected to be \$26 million. It will have a \$90,000 excess limit per injury, with no deductible. There will also be limited coverage for mental health care related to the documented injury. The policy is secondary to other insurance policies and is funded similar to the way the NCAA's catastrophic-injury insurance policy is funded.

Staff is working internally to prepare member institutions and their student-athletes on the actions they will need to take once the program becomes effective. An interactive post-eligibility insurance program website also is being developed that will enable members to have their questions addressed and find the resources they need.

- 4. **Division II Participation in the Association's Insurance Program.** The Planning and Finance Committee reviewed Division II's participation in the NCAA's insurance program and agreed to recommend to the Division II Presidents Council that Division II participate as specified in Nonlegislative Action Item No. 1a.

5. **Division II Long-Range Budget.** The committee reviewed and approved its revised long-range budget document that reflects the committee's action in August to apply a method for calculating Division II's projected revenue that takes Division II's prior year actual revenue plus Division II's allocation of change from the media agreements to calculate the Division II estimated revenue in the long-range budget. The method is what the division used prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and provides a more accurate assessment for planning purposes. [See Nonlegislative Item No. 1b above.]
6. **Updated Conference Strategic Priorities Fund Guidelines and Principles.** The committee reviewed and approved its revised Conference Strategic Priorities Fund Guidelines and Principles document that reflects the committee's action in August to eliminate random audits.
7. **Draft Goals and Objectives for the 2026-32 Division II Strategic Plan.** Staff walked the committee through a draft document [Attachment B] designed to enable the Division II governance structure to begin determining key goals and objectives for the 2026-32 Division II Strategic Plan. The document is based on the new NCAA Operating Plan outlined by NCAA President Charlie Baker and includes a vision statement and a series of commitments and strategic priorities that could help shape the new plan. The committee offered feedback for staff to incorporate and bring back to the committee for review during its December videoconference.
8. **Review Draft of the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the policies and procedures document for the new Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, which is the new iteration of the Planning and Finance Committee that the Division II Implementation Committee recommended and was approved at the 2023 NCAA Convention. The new committee, which will officially begin its duties February 1, 2024, will consist of 11 members, including the vice chair of the Division II Executive Board (which also is the new iteration of the Division II Presidents Council); two members of the Division II Management Council, one of which must include the vice chair, one conference commissioner; one member from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee; and six additional members. At least one of the 11 members shall be from a minority-serving institution. The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee shall report to the Management Council with final approval by the Executive Board.
9. **Correspondence from the Division II Football Alliance.** The committee reviewed a letter signed by presidents from six of the seven conferences representing the Division II Football Alliance that among other things recommends Division II expand its football championship bracket and review the Division II budget to ensure it accurately reflects the division's commitment to championships.

The Planning and Finance Committee acknowledged the recommendations but noted that the division already has processes in place to manage how the division's budget is developed and implemented, and how the division's championships are managed and administered. The committee noted that the concept of bracket expansion in football and the resulting effect on the championship format have already been referred to the Division II Football Committee.

Further, the committee noted that all of the expenses and items within the Division II budget relate directly to the Division II Strategic Plan, and all budget items are vetted throughout the Division II governance structure and ultimately considered by the Division II Planning and Finance Committee, the Division II Management Council, and the Division II Presidents Council before being implemented. As such, the budget process in Division II, as with other operating processes within the division, is a very collaborative process in which the entire Division II membership participates. This includes how the division operates its championships program.

Finally, the Planning and Finance Committee noted that the division has begun work on its 2026-32 Strategic Plan, and that the process will once again be a membership-wide collaboration to determine how the division allocates its resources going forward.

Accordingly, while the committee appreciated the Division II Football Alliance's concerns, members agreed that the existing processes in place are the appropriate measures by which such issues should be decided. Committee members asked staff to draft a response on behalf of the committee that takes these considerations into account.

**10. Future meetings and videoconferences.** The committee will convene via videoconference on December 13 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Eastern time. Staff will notify the new Strategic Planning and Finance Committee regarding the 2024 meetings.

*Committee Chair:* Colleen Perry Keith, President, Goldey-Beacom College  
*Staff Liaisons:* Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance  
Maritza Jones, Division II Governance  
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance  
Andrea Worlock, Administrative Services

Division II Planning and Finance Committee September 20, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Carlos Campo, Ashland University.	
Mark Corino, Caldwell University.	
Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University.	
Frank Wu, Queens College (New York).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Steven Shirley, Minot State University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	

<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones and Andrea Worlock.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, Beatrice Currie, Kendee Hilliard, Cara Hubert, Ryan Jones, David Lafiosca, Robert Turick and Jill Waddell.



## NCAA Division II Long-Range Budget Assumptions

### Division II Long-Range Budget (Attachment A) – Key Assumptions.

- The NCAA Division II Long-Range Budget (DII LRB) Assumptions document is intended to provide detail of each revenue and expense line item in the DII LRB, and any key assumptions used to create the projections within the DII LRB.
- The DII LRB is reviewed annually by the Division II Planning and Finance Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council.

### DII Revenue – Key Assumptions.

- In accordance with NCAA Constitution Article 3 (finance), Division II is guaranteed revenue through allocations made to each division from the Association's general operating revenue.
- Division II shall receive at least 4.37 percent of the Association's annual general operating revenue. General operating revenue includes at least all sources of revenue existing as of January 9, 1996, including revenue from contracts for these existing sources and revenue from any modified, extended or successor contract for such sources [Attachment B].
- Division II calculates its projected revenue for purposes of the long-range budget by taking the prior year's actual revenue and adding its divisional portion of revenue increases from CBS/Turner and ESPN (minus NIT), as noted below. There are no assumed increases in the contracts expiring in FY24 for conservatism.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \text{Division II Prior Year Actual Revenue} & & \\ & + & \\ \text{Division II Allocation of Change} & = & \text{Division II Estimated Revenue} \\ \text{From Media Agreements} & & \end{array}$$

- Surplus is not budgeted. The revenues in excess of expenses may serve to fund unforeseen needs, special projects/initiatives or a possible supplemental distribution to the Division II membership.
- Unallocated dollars from the previous fiscal year are added to the projected budget to calculate the total revenue for the division.

### DII Expenses – Key Assumptions.

- Total DII Championships Expenses: Assumes the following:
  - Annual increase:
    - Five percent increase to the travel budget to cover travel expenses.
  - Triennial (FY25, FY28 and FY31) increases:
    - \$10 increase in per diem;

- One percent increase for committee expenses;
  - Three percent increase for game operations; and
  - \$1,050,000 increase for championships enhancements.
- DII Joint Championships: Assumes allocations of \$500,000 in FY26 and FY30. Unused dollars carry over year to year.
- DII Championships Festivals: Assumes an increase of \$50,000 in FY23. Assumes a different allocation in years with no festivals (\$200,000 in FY26 and FY30).
- Championships support operations: Assumes \$441,003 approved for increases to championships enhancements starting in FY24. Will be combined into appropriate line item in FY24, in conjunction with triennial budget process.
- DII Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund: Assumes a 2.5 percent increase for FY23 and a three percent increase FY24 through FY32.
- DII Institutional Equal Distribution Fund. Assumes a 2.5 percent increase for FY23 and a three percent increase FY24 through FY32.
- DII Supplemental Distribution: The amount for a supplemental distribution is determined following the end of a fiscal year based on whether the division had a surplus at year end.
- DII Academic All-America Program (College Sports Communicators). Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- APPLE Training Institute and NCAA Inclusion Forum. Assumes a three percent increase in FY25, FY28 and FY31 for travel and operational increases.
- DII Coaches Connection. Assumes a budget increase in FY23 for travel expenses.
- DII Coaching Enhancement Grant. [See DII Strategic Alliance Matching Grant (SAMG), below.]
- DII Community Engagement at Division II Championships: Assumes \$100,000 starting FY24 through FY32.
- DII Conference Strategic Priorities Fund: Assumes a \$4,000 to \$6,000 premium amount increase in FY25 (\$310,000); a \$6,000 to \$8,000 premium amount increase in FY28 (\$310,000); and a \$110,000 to \$120,000 base amount increase for each conference in FY31 (\$230,000).
- DII Degree Completion. Assumes no increases until new expenses are requested and approved.
- DII University. Assumes a \$50,000 increase starting in FY24.

- DII Drug Testing Enhancement: Assumes a three percent increase annually through FY32 per contractual agreement.
- Exploratory and Provisional Membership: Only reported as actuals.
- DII FAR Institute. Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- DII Game Day Initiative. Assumes a four-year commitment starting in FY21 through FY24.
- DII Governance Outreach. Assumes no increases unless new programs or expenses are requested and approved.
- DII Grant to ADA. Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- DII Grant to CCA. Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- DII Grant to MOAA. Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- DII Grant to NAAC. Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- DII Grant to Women Leaders in College Sports. Assumes a \$25,000 increase starting in FY23.
- DII Identity Initiatives, Marketing and Communications: Assumes a \$50,000 increase in each triennial (FY25, FY28 and FY31). Assumes a \$1,000 purchasing credit each triennial starting in FY25.
- DII Identity Workshop: Assumes a \$15,000 increase in FY22. Assumes a three percent increase in FY25, FY28 and FY31 for travel and operational increases.
- Insurance for Loss of Revenue. Assumes no increase until contract for Association increases or changes.
- DII Internship Grant. [See SAMG, below.]
- DII Leadership Conference. Assumes an \$8,000 increase in FY24 and a three percent increase in FY25, FY28 and FY31 for travel and operational increases.
- DII Membership Education: Assumes no increases until new expenses are requested and approved.
- DII Mentor Program. Assumes no increases until new expenses are requested and approved.
- NCAA Annual Convention. Assumes a \$35,000 increase in FY24 through FY32.



- DII New AD Orientation. Assumes a \$41,000 budget starting in FY23 through FY32.
- DII Regular Season and Championships Media. Assumes no increase until new expenses are requested and approved.
- DII SAAC Conference. Assumes a three percent increase in FY25, FY28 and FY31 for travel and operational increases.
- DII Strategic Alliance Matching Grant (SAMG): Assumes no new grants awarded in FY21 due to COVID-19, which reduced budget in FY21 through FY23. Assumes a \$175,000 increase in FY25. This increase can be used for the SAMG, the Coaching Enhancement Grant, and/or the Internship Grant, based on the specific programs' needs.
- Administrative Support: Assumes a \$23,000 budget starting in FY24 through FY32.
- Additional Expenses for Division II: Per new NCAA constitution, current overhead charge ceased with FY22. Starting in FY23, an annual review is conducted to validate additional Association service expenses that Division II pays for directly out of its 4.37 percent allocation. Expenses starting in FY23 are indexed three percent annually.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association

## Division II Long-Range Budget Projections through 2031-32

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32
	Actuals	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget
DII Revenue:											
Revenue Allocation	49,059,421	51,374,064	51,602,115	56,933,115	58,026,115	59,337,115	60,430,115	62,834,115	64,364,115	65,894,115	64,364,115
Prior year reserve	47,136,906	51,587,847	51,523,673	53,872,693	58,130,324	62,119,153	66,371,148	67,813,702	70,845,759	74,206,170	75,084,135
Total Revenue	96,196,327	102,961,911	103,125,788	110,805,808	116,156,439	121,456,268	126,801,263	130,647,817	135,209,874	140,100,285	139,448,250
DII Expenses:											
Total DII Championships Expenses	24,977,897	29,526,855	29,965,562	32,279,479	33,715,552	34,505,229	37,410,279	38,280,898	39,195,048	42,269,603	43,277,453
Committee Expenses		336,614	336,614	339,980	339,980	339,980	343,380	343,380	343,380	346,814	346,814
Game Ops		6,828,159	6,899,716	8,083,004	8,083,004	8,083,004	9,375,494	9,375,494	9,375,494	10,706,759	10,706,759
Per Diem		8,719,031	8,815,031	8,815,031	9,499,031	9,499,031	10,279,031	10,279,031	10,279,031	11,059,031	11,059,031
Travel	-	13,643,051	13,914,201	15,041,464	15,793,537	16,583,214	17,412,374	18,282,993	19,197,143	20,157,000	21,164,850
DII Joint Championships	-	450,000	-	-	500,000	-	-	-	500,000	-	-
DII Championships Festival	55,100	744,900	700,000	700,000	200,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	200,000	700,000	700,000
Championships support operations			441,003	441,003	441,003	441,003	441,003	441,003	441,003	441,003	441,003
DII Enhancement Fund (Revenue Distribution)	7,511,130										
Conference Sports Sponsorship		5,774,297	5,947,524	6,125,950	6,309,729	6,499,020	6,693,991	6,894,811	7,101,655	7,314,705	7,534,146
Institutional Equal Distribution Fund		1,924,766	1,982,508	2,041,984	2,103,243	2,166,341	2,231,331	2,298,271	2,367,219	2,438,235	2,511,382
DII Supplemental Distribution	2,999,966	2,312,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 DII Academic All-America Program (Co-SIDA)	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
2 Apple Training Institute and NCAA Inclusion Forum	206,079	350,000	350,000	360,500	360,500	360,500	371,315	371,315	371,315	382,454	382,454
3 DII Coaches Connection	218,990	284,000	254,000	254,000	254,000	254,000	254,000	254,000	254,000	254,000	254,000
4 DII Coaching Enhancement Grant	239,029	300,000	370,000	370,000	370,000	370,000	370,000	370,000	370,000	370,000	370,000
5 Community Engagement at DII Championships	-	-	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
6 DII Conference Strategic Priorities Fund	3,444,000	3,444,000	3,444,000	3,754,000	3,754,000	3,754,000	4,064,000	4,064,000	4,064,000	4,294,000	4,294,000
7 DII Degree Completion	369,752	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
8 DII University	13,810	250,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
9 DII Drug Testing Enhancement	170,797	175,921	181,198	186,634	192,233	198,000	203,940	210,058	216,360	222,851	229,536
10 Exploratory and Provisional Membership	74,862	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 DII FAR Institute	44,961	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
13 DII Game Day Initiative	230,021	520,000	40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 DII Governance Outreach	17,609	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000
15 DII Grant to ADA	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
16 DII Grant to CCA	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
17 DII Grant to MOAA	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
18 DII Grant to NAAC	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
19 DII Grant to Women Leaders in College Sports	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
20 DII Identity Initiatives, Communications and Marketing	412,090	1,553,500	1,203,500	1,583,500	1,253,500	1,253,500	1,633,500	1,303,500	1,303,500	1,683,500	1,353,500
21 DII ID Workshop	183,248	165,000	165,000	169,950	169,950	169,950	175,049	175,049	175,049	180,300	180,300
22 Insurance for loss of revenue	83,850	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000
23 DII Internship Grant	173,887	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500	218,500
24 DII Leadership Conference	236,446	350,000	358,000	368,740	368,740	368,740	379,802	379,802	379,802	391,196	391,196
25 DII Membership Education	46,210	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000	145,000
26 DII Mentor Program	67,493	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500	88,500
27 NCAA Annual Convention	115,602	112,000	147,000	147,000	147,000	147,000	147,000	147,000	147,000	147,000	147,000
28 DII New AD Orientation	-	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000
29 DII Regular Season and Champ. Media	339,110	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
30 DII SAAC Conference	567,714	300,000	300,000	309,000	309,000	309,000	318,270	318,270	318,270	327,818	327,818
31 DII Strategic Alliance Matching Grant Program	589,827	700,000	775,000	950,000	950,000	950,000	950,000	950,000	950,000	950,000	950,000
32 Administrative support	-	-	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000
33 Additional Expenses for Division II	919,000	160,000	164,800	169,744	174,836	174,836	180,081	180,081	185,484	185,484	191,048
Total DII Expenses	44,608,480	51,438,238	49,253,096	52,675,484	54,037,286	55,085,119	58,987,561	59,802,058	61,003,704	65,016,150	65,998,839
Reserve	51,587,847	51,523,673	53,872,693	58,130,324	62,119,153	66,371,148	67,813,702	70,845,759	74,206,170	75,084,135	73,449,411
Percentage of DII revenue allocation	105%	100%	104%	102%	107%	112%	112%	113%	115%	114%	114%
Surplus/(Deficit)	4,544,941										



## MEMORANDUM

January 20, 2022

VIA EMAIL

TO:

FROM: Kathleen McNeely  
NCAA Sr. Vice President of Administration and  
Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: NCAA DII and DIII Revenues and Services per Article 3 of the 2022 NCAA Constitution.

This memo provides more detail than what is included in Article 3 of the 2022 NCAA Constitution as it relates to DII and DIII revenues and services.

*Article 3 of the new constitution states, "Resources will be allocated to the three divisions to provide standard membership services, including championships. Division II will receive 4.37% and Division III will receive 3.18% of all operating revenue sources, as agreed on January 9, 1996.*

*All Division II and Division III member schools and conferences shall receive services from the national association. Each division may choose to support additional service needs through their divisional budget. An annual review will be conducted to validate the additional Association service expenses that Divisions II and III pay for directly out of their allocation."*

The revenue sources that are the basis for the DII and DIII revenue calculations are based on revenues that existed in 1996. These include television and marketing rights, including sponsorship categories that existed in 1996, ticket and host revenue, membership dues, convention and bowl fees, interest income and realized gains and losses on investments.

The services, as of January 2022, that Division II and Division III member schools and conferences shall receive from the national office include administrative services, catastrophic insurance for student-athletes, championship support, communication activities, education support for membership, inclusion support, governance, health and safety services, regulatory support, legal services, research activities and sports based statistical support.

Eliminating the overhead on services dating back to 1996 resulted in additional revenue for both Division II (\$1.3 million) and Division III (\$1.5 million). If Division II and III add any new services, the specific division will be required to cover the costs to support initiatives created or enhanced following the 2021-22 fiscal year.

NCAA MEMO TO FILE- NCAA SERVICES FOR  
DII AND DIII IN ARTICLE 3 OF THE 2022  
NCAA CONSTITUTION  
JANUARY 20, 2022  
Page No. 2

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This memo is written with the understanding that as college sports evolves, some services may no longer be necessary, or some services might be best provided by third party vendors instead of national office staff. These changes will be made in consultation with the divisional governing bodies.

**Division II Operating Plan**

**NCAA Mission:** Provide a world-class athletic and academic experience for student-athletes that fosters lifelong well-being.

**DII Vision:** Provide a balanced and inclusive environment in which student-athletes develop and learn through their desired academic pursuits, civic engagement and athletics competition.

**DII Commitments:**

- Empower student-athletes to compete in the classroom, in athletics and in their career.
- Ensure that the athletics experience is a part of, not apart from, the educational experience.
- Support student-athletes' personal and professional development as they prepare to successfully transition to life after sport.
- Shape athletics participation to enhance and protect student-athletes' mental, physical and social well-being.
- Deliver a championships program that provides equitable, memorable and outstanding postseason experiences.
- Operate an efficient, effective and inclusive governance structure that enables Division II members to actualize the mission and vision.

**DII Strategic Priorities:**

- **Academics**
  - Maintain rules and policies that enable institutions to provide a balanced academic and athletics experience; enable student-athletes to pursue their chosen academic curricula without athletics negatively impacting that decision.
  - Continue to achieve a student-athlete graduation rate above that of the general student body.
  - Promote and honor institutions and conferences that achieve a high level of academic success.
- **Governance**
  - Maintain a diverse and inclusive governance structure that represents all Division II constituents through the one school/one vote legislative process at the NCAA Convention.
  - Increase participation in the governance structure from all levels (e.g., presidents/chancellors, athletics directors, commissioners, senior woman administrators, faculty athletics representatives, coaches, student-athletes, staff).
  - Ensure a strong student-athlete presence in decision-making at the campus, conference and national levels.
  - Use innovative research to inform decision making.
- **Athletics**
  - Seek innovative approaches to support up-and-coming sports that offer new, exciting and equitable opportunities.

- Create a game environment at the campus, conference and national levels that is welcoming, inclusive, fan-friendly, entertaining and civil.
- Celebrate student-athletes' success in the classroom, in the community and on the playing field.
- Implement a championships selections methodology that enhances the postseason for participants and fans without compromising the regional model as a core tenet of the Division II regular-season experience.
- Ensure an access ratio for championships that optimizes postseason participation opportunities.
- Develop initiatives and practices that strengthen the officiating pool; provide education, training and resources to support current officials and attract new officials.

- **Membership**

- Create and maintain achievable and meaningful membership standards that position Division II as a destination of choice.
- Maintain presidential oversight of the division's budgeting process that protects membership interests and supports excellent championships programming.
- Help institutions and conferences enhance their community engagement operations and strengthen relationships.
- Develop educational materials and resources that help institutions support a culture of compliance.
- Provide leadership and professional development opportunities for student-athletes, athletics administrators, coaches and faculty members.
- Seek new revenue streams and opportunities to increase ticket sales, corporate sponsorships and media partnerships.
- Promote and celebrate the Division II brand through the Make It Yours platform to enhance the public's knowledge and appreciation of the Division II experience.

- **Wellness**

- Protect student-athlete well-being through policies and legislation that enhance health and safety.
- Emphasize access and opportunity as a best business practice at the campus, conference and national levels.
- Continue creating an environment/culture that supports and enhances total wellness for all individuals (physical, mental, social and personal well-being).



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JULY 14-15, 2023, IN-PERSON MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Request for Feedback from NCAA Division II Championships Committee and Legislation Committee – NCAA Bylaws 21.8.5.2.1 and 21.8.5.6.1 – Composition.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council request that the Division II Championships Committee and Division II Legislation Committee provide feedback on whether it would be beneficial to add current or former Division II student-athletes to the composition of the Division II Championships Committee (Bylaw 21.8.5.2.1) and Division II Legislation Committee (Bylaw 21.8.5.6.1) in addition to the current Division II National SAAC representative.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. During its July 2023 in-person meeting, the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee continued a discussion regarding a referral the committee received from the Division II Implementation Committee to determine whether it would be beneficial for Division II general committees that already have a SAAC representative to add student-athletes or former student-athletes that are not on Division II SAAC to serve on these general committees. The national SAAC members who serve on the Championships Committee and Legislation Committee both felt that additional student-athletes would benefit the committees by offering more student-athlete perspectives in the discussions when committees are largely composed of administrators. These current or former student-athletes would potentially enhance the gender, sport and ethnic diversity and conference representation that the national SAAC representative provides. Also, adding current or former student-athletes would provide opportunities that are currently limited to national SAAC representatives.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Adding current or former student-athletes to the Championships Committee and/or Legislation Committee would increase travel costs for in-person committee meetings. These travel costs would include additional airfare, lodging and per diem. Further, negligible

meeting expenses would be incurred for additional food and beverage during in-person committee meetings.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. This would enhance the voice of Division II student-athletes in the governance structure and give student-athletes who are not a member of the national SAAC an opportunity to serve.

**b. Request for Feedback from NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee, Committee for Legislative Relief, Membership Committee and Nominating Committee – NCAA Bylaws 19.4.1, 19.5.1, 21.8.5.4.1, 21.8.5.7.1 and 21.8.5.8.1 – Composition.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council request the Division II Committee on Infractions (Bylaw 19.4.1), Infractions Appeals Committee (Bylaw 19.5.1), Committee for Legislative Relief (Bylaw 21.8.5.4.1), Membership Committee (Bylaw 21.8.5.7.1) and Nominating Committee (Bylaw 21.8.5.8.1) provide feedback on whether there is a need to update the committees' composition to include Division II National SAAC representation on these Division II general committees that currently do not include a SAAC member.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. During its July 2023 in-person meeting, the committee continued a discussion regarding a referral the committee received from the Division II Implementation Committee to determine for Division II general committees that do not have a SAAC representative whether there is a need to update the committees' composition to include Division II National SAAC representation. Since no national SAAC members serve on the Division II Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee, Committee for Legislative Relief, Membership Committee and Nominating Committee, national SAAC felt it would be important for the respective committees to have a conversation and share their feedback on whether there is a need to add the student-athlete perspective.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Adding a national SAAC representative to the Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee, Committee for Legislative Relief, Membership Committee and/or Nominating Committee would increase travel costs for in-person committee meetings. These travel costs would include additional airfare, lodging and per diem. Further, negligible meeting expenses would be incurred for additional food and beverage during in-person committee meetings.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This would enhance the voice of Division II student-athletes in the governance structure and give national SAAC members an



opportunity to serve on a committee that currently does not include a student-athlete representative.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Discussion on 2023-24 SAAC Goals.** The committee reflected on its goals and priorities from the 2022-23 academic year. The committee discussed implementing three new themes and how they will align with Division II SAAC and student-athletes. The potential themes are the three E's (Empower, Empathize and Enhance). The committee agreed to encompass its 2022-23 goals (diversity and inclusion, mental health and Life After the Game) through the proposed themes. They also discussed that implementing working groups rather than task forces will allow for more creativity and alleviate burnout. The committee will establish its official goals during a fall meeting.
2. **Division II Congressional Engagement Student-Athlete Resources.** The committee discussed successful social media interactions following its [congressional engagement statement](#) in June. Additionally, the committee reviewed and discussed the similarities and differences of the letters sent to members of Congress from each divisional SAAC. The committee was reminded of the [congressional engagement resources](#) that are available for all Division II student-athletes. Resources include tips for student-athletes to share their story, a templated letter created by a Division II SAAC member that can be personalized by student-athletes and sent to members of Congress, and a discussion guide and PowerPoint to educate student-athletes on congressional engagement.
3. **Division II SAAC Elected Management Council Representatives.** SAAC held an election for the committee's new male representative on the Division II Management Council after the departure of Corbin Thaete (California Collegiate Athletic Association, California State University, San Marcos). The new representative is Austin Mondello (Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, Colorado Mesa University). Mondello's first opportunity to represent national SAAC was at the July Management Council meeting.
4. **Discussion of 2024 NCAA Convention Proposed Legislation.** SAAC reviewed proposals for the 2024 NCAA Convention that are sponsored by the Division II Presidents Council and the Division II membership. The committee will distribute materials to conferences and institutions regarding the legislative process, including the legislative grids in September. These grids are a condensed version of each of the legislative proposals that make for easier understanding and workability when campus SAACs take a position on each proposal. Further instructions and submission details will be provided to each conference and institution by their national SAAC representative. Each institution should complete its grid and submit it via email or hard copy to their national SAAC representative not later than Monday, Oct. 16. National SAAC representatives should send their conference's completed grids to national SAAC Vice Chair Molly Hansen by Monday, Oct. 23.
5. **2024 Convention Education Sessions.** The committee discussed possible education sessions during the 2024 Convention. Education sessions dedicated to developing a strong

campus or conference SAAC, mental wellness, diversity, equity and inclusion, name, image and likeness in Division II, faculty athletics representative programming and resources, academic advising, athletic trainers' workforce issues and education on available grants and scholarships were highlighted. The staff liaisons sought feedback from the committee regarding examples of campuses and conferences who have a strong SAAC.

6. **Discussion with NCAA President Charlie Baker.** SAAC members had the opportunity to speak with President Baker about his experience to date as president, the challenges associated with the day to day lives of student-athletes, the future of officials, sports wagering and how student-athletes can use their voices through congressional engagement.
7. **Discussion on Gender Equity at Championships.** The committee was joined by representatives from Lewis Rice. Lewis Rice has been tasked with evaluating all aspects of NCAA championships excluding Division I men's and women's basketball on the basis of gender equity. Lewis Rice discussed with the committee additions to its six-factor rubric of the student-athlete experience. The six-factor rubric includes health and safety, practice facilities/locker rooms, traveling to championships, marketing before, during and after the championships, gear and fan festivals/student-athlete engagement.
8. **November 2023 SAAC Super Region Convention.** The next Division II SAAC Super Region Convention will be held Nov. 17-19 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta. Active member institutions in the following conferences will have an opportunity to send one administrator and two student-athletes: Conference Carolinas, Gulf South Conference, Peach Belt Conference, South Atlantic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Sunshine State Conference and the super region's independent institutions. Each conference office can also send one conference office administrator. Registration for the super region convention will open in September.
9. **Team IMPACT®.** The committee was provided highlights from the division's 2022-23 Team IMPACT partnership from Chief Executive Officer Seth Rosenzweig and East Coast Conference Commissioner Bob Dranoff. During the 2022-23 academic year, 74 Division II teams were matched with a Team IMPACT child. Currently, Division II has 128 matches across 79 campuses and 22 conferences. Since Division II began partnering with Team IMPACT, the division has had 635 matches across 200 campuses and all 23 conferences. In addition, Team IMPACT is interested in growing Division II fellows to increase community engagement and overall awareness. Currently, there are 21 active fellowships on 11 campuses. For more information on the fellowship program or for questions, the committee was encouraged to contact Amanda Benzine at [abenzine@ncaa.org](mailto:abenzine@ncaa.org) or Amy VanRyn at [avanryn@teamimpact.org](mailto:avanryn@teamimpact.org).
10. **Make-A-Wish®.** Division II continues to partner with Make-A-Wish to create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Division II has raised more than \$6.75 million toward granting the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Over 780

“wishes” have been granted through Division II contributions.

All donations for the 2023-24 academic year must be submitted directly to Make-A-Wish by July 31. Conferences and institutions can visit [ncaadii.wish.org](https://ncaadii.wish.org) to view their donation page that can be customized for their conference office or school. Access the [Make-A-Wish page on NCAA.org](#) for information on the Workout for Wishes fundraiser and for other resources available to assist the Division II membership with fundraising. For questions, the committee was encouraged to contact Amanda Benzine at [abenzine@ncaa.org](mailto:abenzine@ncaa.org) or Andrew Kluge at [akluge@wish.org](mailto:akluge@wish.org).

11. **SAAC and Management Council Summit.** The committee prepared for the SAAC and Management Council Summit that occurred in-person July 15-16. The committee prepared to lead and facilitate discussions during the summit with members from the Management Council.
12. **New SAAC Members.** SAAC welcomed Eddie Baker (at-large representative, The College of Saint Rose), Alexis Devlin (South Atlantic Conference, Catawba College), JJ Hayes (Sunshine State Conference, Palm Beach Atlantic University), Avery Hellmuth (Great American Conference, Oklahoma Baptist University), Scout Huffman (Lone Star Conference, Texas Woman’s University), Alexis Montalvo (Great Midwest Athletic Conference, Ashland University) and Justin Zavala (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Bowie State University) to the committee as its newest members.
13. **April and May Meeting Reports.** The April 2023 and May 2023 committee meeting reports were reviewed and approved.
14. **SAAC Annual Reports.** Each SAAC representative except for the committee’s at-large representatives is responsible for providing a written report by email to their commissioner by Thursday, Aug. 31. The report should summarize the work of their conference SAAC and national SAAC. When the report is submitted to the commissioner, SAAC members were asked to send it to Ryan Jones at [rjones@ncaa.org](mailto:rjones@ncaa.org).
15. **SAAC Network.** SAAC members were reminded to make sure their conference’s SAAC network is updated with both campus SAAC advisors and presidents for the 2023-24 academic year by Sept. 15. If there are any questions or members need best practices for this initiative, committee members were encouraged to reach out to fellow committee members or Ryan Jones at [rjones@ncaa.org](mailto:rjones@ncaa.org).
16. **Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award.** The Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award honors 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 noted that the nomination process for the 2023 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award is open and the nomination form is available [here](#). SAAC representatives should work with their conference office and conference SAAC to nominate one representative from an active member institution for the

award. Division II independent institutions may also nominate one representative each for the award. The deadline to submit nominations is Sunday, Oct. 15. SAAC's honors, awards and recognition subcommittee will choose the recipient and present them the award at the 2024 Convention in Phoenix. For more information on the award, the committee was encouraged to reference the award's [frequently asked questions](#).

17. **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, Championships Committee, Legislation Committee, Management Council, Presidents Council and Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.
18. **Association-Wide Committee Reports.** Committee members representing Association wide committees provided updates on their respective committees. The Association-wide committees represented were the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee, Committee on Women's Athletics and Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.
19. **Future Meetings.**
  - a. Aug. 9, 2023; videoconference.
  - b. Fall 2023 videoconference; date to be determined.
  - c. Nov. 16-19, 2023; in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Atlanta, Georgia.
  - d. Jan. 9-13, 2024, in conjunction with 2024 NCAA Convention; Phoenix, Arizona.
  - e. April 13-14, 2024, videoconference.
  - f. July 19-21, 2024; SAAC/Management Council Summit; Indianapolis.
  - g. Nov. 23-24, 2024; videoconference.
  - h. Jan. 14-18, 2025; in conjunction with 2025 NCAA Convention; Nashville, Tennessee.

<i>Committee Chair:</i>	<i>Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference</i>
<i>Staff Liaisons:</i>	<i>Ryan Jones, Governance</i>
	<i>Amanda Benzine, Women's Basketball</i>
	<i>Marcus Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs</i>
	<i>Becca Burchette Medel, Governance</i>

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee July 14-15, 2023, In-Person Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.	
Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
Eddie Baker, The College of Saint Rose, At-Large.	
Scott Borgmann Jr., Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.	
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University, At-Large.	
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.	
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.	
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo, Gulf South Conference.	
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference.	
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Myles Jackson, Queens College (New York), At-Large.	
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference.	
David Mayser, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Pacific West Conference.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.	
Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.	
Tanner Olson, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Justin Zavala, Bowie State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference.	
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas of Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Hunter Beeson, Bob Dranoff, Allison Knopp, Ryan Krutz, Carrie Michaels, Sarah Mullen and Seth Rosenzweig.	
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Charlie Baker, Amanda Benzine, Susan Britsch, Marcus Brown, Michael Cioroianu, Terri Steeb Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Kelsi Mahoney, Becca Burchette Medel and Angela Red.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 9, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Updates on 2023-24 Division II SAAC Goals and Priorities.** The committee finalized its goals and priorities for the 2023-24 academic year. This year's themes are the 3 E's.
  - a. **Empower student-athletes with resources.** SAAC will promote congressional engagement resources on their personal social media channels as well as Division II SAAC Instagram and X. The committee also discussed promoting Life After the Game resources on social media. These resources include materials such as creating resumes, tips for networking, interview practices and creating a LinkedIn profile.
  - b. **Empathize with student-athletes' concerns.** The committee plans to celebrate and recognize important days and months, such as Juneteenth and LGBTQ+ pride month and share diversity, equity and inclusion spotlights on social media. The committee plans to also promote mental health resources vetted by the NCAA Sport Science Institute on personal social media channels as well as the Division II SAAC Instagram and X. The committee will create and utilize a calendar for social content tracking and organization.
  - c. **Enhance student-athletes' voices and experiences.** The committee discussed the newly created Division II SAAC Instagram. The committee is working on establishing a content plan that the social media subcommittee will implement. The committee will also finalize its campus and conference SAAC guides.
2. **Division II's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.** The committee received an update on the Division's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, including the celebration launch and social blitz on August 7.
3. **NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program.** The committee received information regarding the NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program. Applications for the 2024-25 NCAA PGIP cohort close on Friday, September 8. The committee was encouraged to attend a webinar hosted by the NCAA leadership development team on Thursday, August 17 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time to receive more information on the internship program.
4. **Future Meetings.**
  - a. Fall 2023 videoconference, date to be determined.

- b. Nov. 16-19, 2023, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Atlanta, Georgia.
- c. Jan. 9-13, 2024, in conjunction with 2024 NCAA Convention; Phoenix, Arizona.
- d. April 13-14, 2024, SAAC meeting; videoconference.
- e. July 19-21, 2024, SAAC/Management Council Summit; Indianapolis.
- f. Nov. 23-24, 2024; videoconference.
- g. Jan. 14-18, 2025; in conjunction with 2025 NCAA Convention; Nashville, Tennessee.

*Committee Chair:* Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Ryan Jones, Governance  
 Amanda Benzine, Women's Basketball  
 Marcus Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Megan McDonald, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Becca Burchette Medel, Governance

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee August 9, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.	
Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
Eddie Baker, The College of Saint Rose, At-Large.	
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.	
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.	
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo, Gulf South Conference.	
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference.	
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Myles Jackson, Queens College (New York), At-Large.	
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	

Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference.
David Mayser, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Pacific West Conference.
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
Tanner Olson, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference.
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas of Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.
Justin Zavala, Bowie State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University, At-Large.
Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Megan McDonald and Becca Burchette Medel.





REPORT OF THE NCAA  
DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IDENTITY SUBCOMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

**1. Division II's 50th Anniversary Celebration.**

- Recap of Celebration Launch.** The subcommittee was provided an overview of the successful external and internal launch of the 50th anniversary celebration, including the distribution of a communications kit, logos, social media graphics and public address announcements. The subcommittee was reminded that the resources are available in a shared Google Drive folder that has been referenced in emails from Division II Vice President Terri Steeb Gronau and at [ncaa.org/dii50](https://ncaa.org/dii50). The staff noted that at one point on August 7 Division II was trending #4 on X. The 50th anniversary lapel pins were mailed to all active and provisional directors of athletics for distribution on their campuses and conference commissioners for distribution in their conference offices. Finally, the staff noted that the joint breakfast held with Division III was a success. NCAA President Charlie Baker, Steeb Gronau and Division III Managing Director Bill Regan all provided comments during the event.
- Membership Signage Credit.** The staff provided an update on the \$200 credit for each active member institution and conference to use for 50th anniversary signage. A total of 249 conferences and institutions placed an order and 67 institutions and conferences were sent generic 50th anniversary signage packages.
- Gold Award Nominees.** A total of 231 individuals representing all 23 Division II conferences were nominated for the 50th anniversary Gold Award. Conference offices have until November 6 to evaluate the nominees and choose two conference winners (one male, one female). The subcommittee will review the 46 finalists from the conferences and select the overall winners (one male, one female) by December 8. The Gold Award winners will be recognized during the 2024 NCAA Convention.
- Gold Award Draft Rubric.** The staff provided an overview of the Gold Award draft rubric. The subcommittee then discussed the final scoring process and determined that it would split into two groups for review purposes. One group would score the 23 male finalists and another would score the 23 female finalists. The staff noted they will provide the rubric for subcommittee members to insert scores for each finalist and provide an average score amongst the group. The subcommittee will meet again to review scores and make its final decision on the Gold Award overall winners.

- e. **Championships Jersey Patch Update.** The staff provided an update that they took the feedback received from the subcommittee in July to revise the jersey patch. The jersey patches have been ordered for student-athletes and officials at preliminary rounds and final sites. It was noted that the patch size is 2 1/2 inches in size.
2. **Division II Tool Cards.** The staff provided an overview of the current Division II tool cards, noting that they will be updated with new graphics and data. The subcommittee provided feedback on replacing the Bottom Line on Reclassification on the DII Dollars and Sense tool card with a new section on how Division II supports its members. It was also noted that Make Game Day Yours would be added to the Engaging Your Community tool card.
3. **Make It Yours Activation Update.** The staff provided an overview of the Division II Landscape Audit conducted by Barkley. This audit evaluated the channels, messaging, creative and brand of Division II and its competitors: Division I, Division III, NJCAA and the NAIA. The audit revealed that X is the social platform with the largest following on Division II accounts. However, it also has the lowest overall engagement. The audit revealed that when searching the word “NCAA Division” on Google, Division II has many more searches than Division I and Division III.

Barkley also developed a Division II qualitative topline report. Barkley engaged audiences using an online bulletin board that included two days of activities and discussion lasting 45 minutes each day for a total of 90 minutes. There were three distinct groups that were engaged: (1) A prospect group among 16, 17, and 18 year old high schoolers who are considering competing in, or being recruited to compete in their respective sport at the collegiate level; (2) An influencer group among guidance counselors, parents/legal guardians, coaches and athletic trainers or strength and conditioning coaches at the high school varsity, junior varsity or in competitive sports teams; and (3) A nonuser group among students that graduated from high school (ages 18-25) and was recruited to compete at the Division II level but ultimately chose a different path. The research concluded that the “Make It Yours” tagline definitely feels like the right message for prospects and influencers based on positive perceptions of Division II and aspirations for the ideal, “perfect fit” college experience. Barkley also noted that they feel there is an opportunity to sharpen the distinction with Division I and in doing so, make clear that Division II is not second best and is an intentionally different and integrated college experience.

4. **Make Game Day Yours Update.** The staff provided an update that all eight regions have participated in Make Game Day Yours training. The staff also provided a usage update by conference on the Make Game Day Yours modules in Division II University. As of September 15, there were 450 registered users with 203 individuals completing all modules. Finally, the subcommittee was reminded of the resources that have been created for conferences and institutions to implement the Make Game Day Yours initiative and conduct a 90-minute training, including a service card, trainer’s guide and PowerPoint presentation.

5. **Division II Award of Excellence Update.** The subcommittee was provided an update that nominations will open in the next couple of weeks for the Award of Excellence. Each active Division II institution and conference is eligible to submit its best community engagement activity and/or event that promotes student-athletes giving back and serving as leaders within their communities by November 17. A few initiatives schools may consider include student-athlete leadership development, educational programming, military appreciation, game environment, Make-A-Wish® or Team IMPACT®. Monetary prizes are given for first (\$2,500), second (\$1,250) and third place (\$1,000), and a \$500 prize is given to one winner in each of the 23 Division II conferences, one winner representing independent institutions and at-large honorees. All prize money is to be used toward future community engagement initiatives.
6. **Social Media Monthly Reports.** The subcommittee received an overview of the division's social media analytics for July and August. In July, the division's X and Instagram combined to total over 272,000 impressions. The division's Facebook page reached more than 31,000 people. In August, across the division's X and Instagram platforms, there were over 1.1 million impressions. The division's Facebook page reached more than 330,000 people
7. **Future Meetings.** The subcommittee agreed to meet from noon to 1 p.m. Eastern time December 11 to discuss the Gold Award finalists. The subcommittee also noted its April 2024 meeting that will occur after the first day of Management Council meetings on April 15.

*Subcommittee Chair: Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University*

*Staff Liaisons: Ryan Jones, Division II Governance*

*Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*

*Maritza Jones, Division II Governance*

*Becca Burchette Medel, Division II Governance*

Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee September 27, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference.	
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos.	
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University.	
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California.	
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University.	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.	

Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive.
Danny McCabe, Adelphi University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones and Becca Burchette Medel.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Kendee Hilliard and Jill Waddell.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS  
AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
JUNE 13-14, 2023 MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Approval of February 20-21, 2023, videoconference report.** The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports approved the report of the February 20-21, 2023, videoconference.
2. **President Charlie Baker.** CSMAS received remarks from NCAA President Charlie Baker.
3. **Mental health.**
  - a. Mental Health Advisory Group update. CSMAS received an update on the work of the Mental Health Advisory Group. The MHAG met on March 8-9 in Indianapolis and discussed its scope of work, methodology and timeline (Attachment A). It also received an overview of literature and best practices on student-athlete mental health and discussed each best practice within the existing NCAA Mental Health Best Practices.
  - b. Mental Health Best Practices update. CSMAS supported the general direction of preliminary concepts developed by the MHAG to update the Mental Health Best Practices. The MHAG will continue its work to finalize consensus statements which will guide recommendations for CSMAS to consider at a future meeting. The recommendations will be socialized with the membership before CSMAS requests the NCAA Board of Governors take final action on the updates. It is expected that CSMAS will request the Board of Governors to take final action at its January 2024 meeting.
4. **Litigation updates.** CSMAS received a briefing on the ongoing litigation relevant to its work.
5. **Governance updates.**
  - a. Divisional updates. CSMAS received a governance update from each of the divisions.
  - b. Update from Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Health and Safety Subgroup. CSMAS received an update on the work of the Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and NCAA CSMAS Health and Safety Subgroup.

Specifically, the Health and Safety Subgroup completed its referral from the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee and made recommendations to the NCAA Division I Council (Attachment B).

6. **Drug Free Sport International update.** CSMAS received an update from Drug-Free Sport International on the NCAA year-round, fall and championship drug-testing programs for the 2022-23 academic year. The program summary included the rate of NCAA banned substances detected, the number of appeals conducted, and the number of administrative reviews conducted for student-athlete exit tests.
7. **Subcommittee reports.**
  - a. **Administrative Subcommittee.**
    - (1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Administrative Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2023.
    - (2) CSMAS advisory group structure. CSMAS agreed to establish an advisory group structure (Attachment C), as recommended by AdCom and in support of the recently approved [Policies and Procedures of Identifying Consensus-Based Guidance](#). The structure includes five advisory groups: 1. The existing (a) Concussion Safety Advisory Group and (b) Mental Health Advisory Group; and 2. The creation of three additional advisory groups: (a) Sport-Related Illness and Injury; (b) Performance and Training; (c) Social and Interpersonal Health. CSMAS noted the following rationale for the creation of an a priori approach:
      - (a) The adopted policies and procedures established topical, threshold and compositional requirements that make it possible to anticipate the most relevant topical areas for the advisory groups.
      - (b) Creating an a priori structure allows for proper notice, planning and other operational support to identify consensus-based guidance that responds to membership needs in a timely way.
      - (c) Identifying the topical scope of advisory groups provides clarity to both CSMAS and the membership on the procedural avenue relevant requests will follow.

- (d) An established and stable advisory group structure will help generate trust in the process that could be more difficult to accomplish with a responsive approach.
- (3) General public physician nomination. CSMAS identified two nominees for nominating committee consideration when approving a replacement for the current general public physician whose term expires on September 1, 2023.
- (4) Athletic training workforce issues. CSMAS received an update related to ongoing athletic training workforce issues. An upcoming meeting is scheduled with the leadership of athletic training organizations and representatives from the membership.
- (5) NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy update. CSMAS received a review of the current state of the NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy, including an overview of emerging trends in sport-governing body policies, state laws and proposed federal regulations.

**b. Drug-Testing Subcommittee.**

- (1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Drug-Testing Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2023.
- (2) Drug-testing program review. CSMAS was informed by the Drug-Testing Subcommittee that it completed review of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program, as directed by CSMAS, and it recommended no changes to testing methods. In its decision to recommend no changes, the Drug-Testing Subcommittee affirmed previous concerns related to student-athlete privacy and the invasiveness of the athlete biological passport program that were raised during the 2020 review. It also noted the potential negative impact on the student-athlete experience if specific student-athletes and/or specific sports were targeted, and the logistical challenges associated with the testing pool (e.g., transfer portal, monitoring burden).

CSMAS referred the review to the Drug-Testing Subcommittee in September 2022 following interest from the United States Anti-Doping Agency to enhance collaboration. This review is separate from other ongoing reviews, including threshold considerations and Association cannabinoid policy [see Items 7-b-(3) and 7-b-(4) below]. CSMAS had previously reviewed the Drug-Testing Program in 2020.

- (3) Threshold for GW 1516. CSMAS adopted the Drug-Testing Subcommittee recommendation to establish a trace-level threshold of less than 0.1 nanograms per milliliter for the banned hormone and metabolic modulator GW1516. The threshold is intended to limit unintended eligibility impacts on student-athletes who may test positive due to unintentional ingestion of the substance (e.g., through contaminated supplements) or situations when student-athletes are disproportionately penalized due to the extended time the substance takes to be completely eliminated from the body.

Rationale that supported this decision included:

- (a) NCAA drug testing and appeal data associated with GW1516 positives;
- (b) Subject matter expert insight regarding concentration levels and elimination response based on administration/exposure;
- (c) Impact on return to eligibility; and
- (d) External sport organizations' testing data and protocols.

In adopting the threshold, CSMAS noted that when GW1516 is detected below the threshold the results will be reported to the school as atypical. This provides an opportunity for continued education and permits repeat testing of the student-athlete with no loss of eligibility or withholding from competition. The threshold for GW1516 detection will be effective for all tests September 1, 2023, and later.

- (4) Cannabinoid policy. CSMAS signaled its support for removing cannabis from the Association's banned drug list and testing protocols, as recommended by the Drug-Testing Subcommittee. CSMAS will gather input from the membership this summer with a final recommendation expected in the fall. CSMAS agreed that the potential change should be accompanied by a comprehensive communication and education campaign that would provide guidance to the membership about cannabis.

In June 2022, the issue was referred to CSMAS by Division II and III , which asked CSMAS to further consider the Association's cannabis policy and whether NCAA drug-testing should be limited to performance-enhancing substances.

The rationale for considering the change was largely informed by the December [2022 Summit on Cannabinoids in College Athletics](#) and includes



the consensus opinion that cannabis is not a performance-enhancing drug and that a harm reduction approach to cannabis is best implemented at the school level. Additional rationale included:

- (a) Focusing on testing for substances that provide an unfair advantage by enhancing athletic performance;
- (b) Shifting toward a harm reduction philosophy for cannabis, similar to the approaches taken with alcohol;
- (c) Realigning toward institutional testing and how that testing supports/enhances campus efforts to identify problematic cannabis use;
- (d) Educating student-athletes on the health threats posed by contemporary cannabis and methods of use; and
- (e) Identifying and explaining relevant harm reduction/mitigation strategies to those student-athletes who choose to legally consume cannabis.

Pending positive feedback from the membership, CSMAS would seek support from the NCAA Board of Governors to stop testing for cannabis at 2023-24 NCAA championship events while legislative action is considered.

For the cannabinoid class to be removed from the NCAA list of banned drugs, each of the three NCAA divisional governance bodies would have to introduce and adopt legislation.

**c. Prevention and Performance Subcommittee.**

- (1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Prevention and Performance Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2023.
- (2) Statement on wearable/performance technology. CSMAS approved recommended revisions to its 2016 statement on performance (previously wearable) technologies. (Attachment D)

**d. Research Subcommittee.**

- (1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Research Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2023.

- (2) Response to Wrestling Rules Committee: exposure accounting. CSMAS approved a written response to the NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee's inquiry about NCAA Injury Surveillance Program methodologies to account for athlete injury exposure. CSMAS will not recommend any changes to existing methodologies.
  - (3) Data Injury Statistics Clearinghouse process reinstatement. CSMAS received an update regarding progress toward the reinstatement of the Data Injury Statistics Clearinghouse process. This process allows for researchers affiliated with NCAA member institutions to request ISP data for the purpose of conducting peer-reviewed, epidemiological research. It is expected that the process will be reinstated the fall of 2023.
  - (4) IPP Health & Safety Survey update. CSMAS received the initial results from the 2022-23 Health & Safety Survey. These results are generated from the annual health and safety surveys required of Divisions I and II member schools and are otherwise provided to those schools by way of the NCAA Institutional Performance Program.
- 8. **National Federation of State High School Association update.** CSMAS received an update on the National Federation of State High School Associations' Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.
- 9. **Vice-chair election.** CSMAS elected Deena Casiero, University of Connecticut Senior Associate Athletic Director for Sports Medicine and team physician, to the vice chair position for the 2023-24 academic year.
- 10. **NCAA Injury Surveillance Program.**
  - a. Datalys contract renewal. CSMAS was informed that the NCAA plans to renew its contract with the Datalys Center and is working to finalize the contract.
  - b. Operational update.
    - (1) Participation update. CSMAS received an update on membership participation in the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program. Efforts to promote membership participation have been underway for the past year, and there is some evidence that participation levels are beginning to increase from post-COVID levels.

- (2) EMR status. CSMAS received an update on electronic medical record systems maintenance issues.
    - (3) Membership education. CSMAS received an update on plans for enhanced membership education on ISP use. The Datalys Center is developing video tutorials that correspond to various NCAA ISP-compatible EMR systems. These tutorials will guide ISP participants through basic steps of data entry and submission and will serve as a reference for participants seeking guidance.
  - c. ISP report. CSMAS received a summary of two reports that were generated from ISP data at the request of the membership. One report was created at the request of the NCAA Softball Playing Rules Committee. The second report was requested by a conference.
11. **Concussion Safety Advisory Group meeting and Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist.** CSMAS received a briefing on the agenda of the June 26 Concussion Safety Advisory Group meeting. The CSAG will consider emerging information, including the recently updated consensus statement on concussion in sport which is based on the outcomes from the sixth International Conference on Concussion in Sport held in Amsterdam in October 2022. The CSAG may make recommendations for CSMAS to consider updating the Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist and other resources. The timeline for the consideration of such changes will be determined by CSMAS in consultation with the membership.
  12. **NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook update.** CSMAS noted that the Sports Medicine Handbook is undergoing substantive updates which are expected to be finalized for publication for the 2023-24 academic year.
  13. **Sexual Violence Prevention Toolkit update.** CSMAS noted editorial changes to the Sexual Violence Prevention Toolkit that reflect changing state and national laws, more inclusive language and the recently updated deadline, now the first Friday in November, for schools to attest to compliance with the NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence.
  14. **NCAA Board of Governors review of Association-wide committees.** Following the adoption of the new constitution in January 2022, the NCAA Board of Governors began a review of all Association-wide committees to determine their relevance, assess whether potential changes would better align the committee's work with the new constitution and determine how to streamline the Association-wide governance structure. CSMAS referred these questions to the AdCom, which will provide the requested information to the Board of Governors.

*Committee Chair:*      *Nicole Pieart, Lake Forest College*  
*Staff Liaisons:*      *Leilani Hubbard, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs*  
                                 *John Parsons, NCAA Sport Science Institute*  
                                 *Anne Rohlman, NCAA Sport Science Institute*

NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports June 13-14, 2023 Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Matt Barany, University of Richmond	
Pam Hinton-Bruzina, University of Missouri, Columbia	
Deena Casiero, University of Connecticut	
Timothy Coffey, Longwood University	
Bob Colgate, National Federation High School Association	
Sarah Dowd, Michigan Technological University	
N. Jeremi Duru, American University	
Jack Enriken, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania	
Luis Feigenbaum, University of Miami (Florida)	
Alan Hirahara, California State University, Sacramento	
Richard Hendricks, Shorter University	
James Houle, The Ohio State University	
Yolanda Malone-Gilbert, Genesis Behavioral Health & Collaborative, SVC., Inc.	
Nadine Mastroleo, Binghamton University	
Ally Meehan, Wagner College	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University	
Amanda Phillips, University of Louisiana at Lafayette	
Nicole Pieart, Lake Forest College	
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University	
Rohan Springer, University of Texas at Dallas	
Kim Terrell, University of Oregon	
Michelle Walsh, Vassar College	
Rich Wanninger, Patriot League	
Auburn Weisensale, University of Pittsburgh	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Brad Anawalt, University of Washington.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Adrian Boltz, Avinash Chandran, Michelle Dorsey and Neel Rao.	

<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
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John Parsons and Anne Rohlman.
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<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
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Laura Arnett, President Charlie Baker, Amanda Conklin, Amanda Dickey, LaGwyn Durden, Alicia Fine, Brian Hainline, Gregg Johnson, Greg Pottorff, Alex Purcell, Stephanie Quigg, Jennifer Roe, Crystal Rogers, Jared Tidemann and Carey Wheelhouse.
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**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP  
MARCH 8-9, 2023, MEETING**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Scope of work, methodology and timeline.** The NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group noted its role and authority as an advisory group. Specifically, it was primarily charged with reviewing and making recommendations to the [NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports](#) on possible updates to the [Interassociation Consensus Document: Mental Health Best Practices](#) that would be informed by outcomes from the [Diverse Student-Athlete Mental Health and Well-Being Summit](#) and emerging mental health data in the medical and scientific literature.

The group received an outline of consensus-building methodology, which will be used to develop expert-based consensus statements and recommended updates to the Mental Health Best Practices. MHAG representatives discussed next steps in the consensus-building methodology, including surveys to invite representative participation in rating recommendation statements generated from discussions at this meeting. Following initial rating, recommendation statements will go through revision processes until MHAG representatives reach consensus. An update on the consensus-based statements and recommendations is expected to be provided to CSMAS in June 2023.

2. **Overview of Student-Athlete Mental Health.** The MHAG reviewed literature and best practices on student-athlete mental health, engaged in didactic sessions and began foundational discussions with the aim of reviewing and making recommendations to update the MHBP as directed by CSMAS. Specifically, the MHAG discussed the following:
  - a. Frameworks for understanding the scope of student-athlete mental health. Considering a public health approach, the MHAG reviewed multilevel factors that may play a role in student-athlete mental health. The Social-Ecological Model was discussed as a potential framework to consider individual, interpersonal, organizational and community level factors that may impact student-athlete mental health.
  - b. Unique mental health and well-being considerations in diverse student-athlete populations. MHAG representatives received an overview of current literature regarding the unique considerations for mental health and wellbeing in diverse student-athlete populations. The overview including discussion of mental health risk and protective factors for student-athletes of color, LGBTQ+ student-athletes, international student-athletes and student-athletes with disability.

- c. Review of Mental Health Best Practices. The MHAG received didactic content on each best practice within the MHBP document. Presentations provided a review of successes, challenges and opportunities related to each best practice, as well discussed topically relevant considerations for each best practice, including:
- (1) Best Practice #1.
    - Considerations for healthcare personnel providing evaluation and treatment of student-athletes with mental health symptoms.
  - (2) Best Practice #2.
    - (a) Considerations for identification of student-athletes at risk for mental health concerns.
    - (b) Access to and modalities of care.
  - (3) Best Practice #3.
    - New approaches to screening.
  - (4) Best Practice #4.
    - (a) Messages from organizations working to promote student-athlete mental health and wellbeing, as well as prevent athlete death by suicide.
    - (b) Considerations for student-athlete identity, including considerations for the impacts of social media, NIL and sports wagering on student-athlete identity.
    - (c) Considerations for team culture and athletics departments.
    - (d) Considerations for campuses.
    - (e) Considerations for policy.
3. **Future meeting schedule.** The MHAG will convene via videoconference June 28-29, 2023.

Report of the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group

March 8-9, 2023, Meeting

Page No. 3

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*Staff Liaison: Carey Wheelhouse, NCAA Sport Science Institute*

NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group March 8-9, 2023, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Vedika Anand, Board of Governors Student-Athlete Experience Committee (Virtual)	
Anna Baeth, Athlete Ally	
Randy Barker, Division III Governance (Virtual)	
Rebecca Benghiat, JED Foundation Representative	
Doug Boersma, National Athletic Trainers' Association	
Allison Brager, Sleep Research Society	
JoAnne Bullard, Faculty Athletics Representatives Association	
Karen Cogan, United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (Alternate)	
Peggy Davis, Division II Governance	
Carla Edwards, International Society for Sport Psychiatry	
Daniel Foster, Society of Indian Psychologists (Virtual)	
Rachel Frank, American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (Virtual)	
Darcy Gruttadaro, National Alliance on Mental Illness	
Bob Harmison, Association for Applied Sport Psychology	
Brandonn Harris, Society for Sport, Exercise & Performance Psychology	
James Houle, Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports	
Megan Koch, Division III National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	
Alan Lorenz, Higher Education Mental Health Alliance	
Myles Jackson, Division II National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	
Natasha Oakes, Division I Governance (Virtual)	
Brynn Carlson, Division I National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (Alternate)	
Casey Pick, The Trevor Project	
Ashwin Rao, American Medical Society for Sports Medicine	
Jerry Reynolds, Alliance of Social Workers in Sports	
Jeni Shannon, Clinical/Counseling Sport Psychology Association	
Allyson Meehan, Division I National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (Alternate)	
Alisia (Giac-Thao) Tran, Asian American Psychological Association	
Laura Amaya, Division II National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
DIII National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee – Representative TBD	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Claudia Calder, Vincent Gouttebarger and Marci Ridpath	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>	
Carey Wheelhouse	



<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Laura Arnett, President Charlie Baker, Corey Berg, Ashley Caldwell, Amanda Dickey, LaGwyn Durden, Kelsey Gurganus-Wright, Dallas Hack, Brian Hainline, Emily Kroshus, Becca Burchette Medel, Jean Merrill, Mallory Mickus, Kaylen Overway, John Parsons, Greg Pottorff, Christopher Radford, Crystal Rogers, Anne Rohlman and Jerry Vaughn.



FINAL REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I STRATEGIC VISION AND PLANNING COMMITTEE  
AND  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
HEALTH AND SAFETY SUBGROUP  
MAY 30, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

1. Legislative items.

a. Empowerment of Athletics Health Care Administrators. [See Attachment A and Non-Legislative Action Item No. 2a]

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt legislation to specify that an active institution must establish policies and procedures to empower the athletics health care administrator with the authority to oversee the institution's athletic health care administration and delivery, as specified.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.
- (3) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (4) Rationale. In response to recommendations made by the Transformation Committee, the Board of Directors directed the development of legislation establishing enhanced membership expectations to improve the student-athlete experience of and access to health and safety measures. This proposal seeks to empower the athletics health care administrator to effectuate Association mental and physical health, safety and performance guidance, policy, legislation and other requirements. In recommending this proposal, it is also recommended that the NCAA national office provide resources, when requested, to assist institutions in developing and reviewing its athletics health care administrator policies and procedures.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Attestation of Review of Support Services. [See Attachment B]

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt legislation to specify that an active institution shall attest annually to completing a comprehensive review of its mental and physical health, safety and performance support services (e.g., legislative and policy requirements, best practice considerations) at least once every four years.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.

- (3) Estimated budget impact. Variable. Cost associated with conducting review no less often than once per four years.
- (4) Rationale. In response to recommendations made by the Transformation Committee, the Board of Directors directed the development of legislation establishing enhanced membership expectations to improve the student-athlete experience of and access to health and safety measures. This proposal provides one mechanism to hold schools accountable for providing mental and physical health, performance and safety support consistent with Association best practices and guidance. It should be noted that while conducting a review once every four years is appropriate, conferences have the option to require more frequent reviews for members of their conferences. Beyond that, conferences have the discretion to determine whether to play a more substantive role or establish more stringent requirements (e.g., establishing a conference peer review process or engaging outside entities to conduct standardized reviews). In recommending this proposal, it is also recommended that the NCAA national office provide resources, when requested, to assist institutions in conducting reviews of their support services. The importance of decision-making and participation by local medical professionals should be underscored. The athletics health care administrator should play a primary role in the review. Finally, the review of support services is intended to promote periodic evaluation of health and safety structures and services on campus, not to usurp the judgement of local medical authorities.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

## 2. **Non-legislative Action Items.**

- a. Empowerment of the Athletics Health Care Administrators – Establishment of Professional Organization.
  - (1) Recommendation. The subgroup recommends that the Division I governance structure validate the importance of the creation of an AHCA professional organization to build culture and legitimize the responsibilities of the designation. The subgroup noted that additional work is necessary, including the consideration of financial support and possible partnership with a third-party entity, to establish a meaningful AHCA professional organization. This work should be referred to the appropriate governing body.
  - (2) Effective date. Immediate.

- (3) Estimated budget impact. Will vary based on the role of the NCAA National Office and partnership opportunities.
  - (4) Rationale. The establishment of a professional organization for Athletics Health Care Administrators will provide opportunities for collaboration, learning and further empowerment of the AHCA role.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
- b. Coverage of Athletic Activity.
- (1) Recommendation. The health and safety subgroup recommends the following to address the Transformation Committee's recommendation related to the coverage of athletic activity:
    - (a) That the Division I Board consider work on the coverage of athletic activity complete based on the adoption of the holistic model, which requires schools to attest to following consensus-based guidance, including [Independent Medical Care Best Practice and Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes](#); and
    - (b) That the Division I governance structure validate the importance and urgency of NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports continuing to address the current athletic trainer shortage and requested that an update regarding this shortage and work being done to address the issue be provided to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors at its August meeting.
  - (2) Effective date. Immediate.
  - (3) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (4) Rationale. These recommendations align with the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee's intent since the adoption of the holistic model will require schools to attest to providing appropriate coverage of athletic activity consistent with best practices. The recommendations also acknowledge the existence of other requirements that address health care and health emergencies, for example:
    - (a) NCAA Bylaw 17.1.6 which requires school staff with certification in first aid, CPR and AED use to be present any time a student-athlete participates in physical, countable athletically related activity.

- (b) Association-wide policy which requires a school to have an emergency action plan for all venues in which practices or competition are conducted.

The subgroup noted that the difficulty in legislatively implementing the concept as recommended due to a variety of factors, including but not limited to, a shortage of athletic trainers and the varying coverage strategies used by schools. While the subgroup supported the intent of the recommendation, it was unclear if it would have the intended effect on the student-athlete experience. The subgroup recommended that the NCAA continue to work with strategic partners to identify strategies to address athletic health care staffing challenges, which may do more to improve the student-athlete experience.

Ultimately, the subgroup preferred a model that would require schools to attest to providing athletic coverage consistent with best practices for preventing catastrophic injury and death. This model provides the most flexibility and relies on best practices that are reviewed and updated by experts. An attestation model is also consistent with the recommended approach to other health and safety requirements in the holistic model, which has been supported and adopted by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- **Approval of the NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Health and Safety Subgroup May 9 report.** The subgroup reviewed and approved the May 9 Health and Safety Subgroup meeting report.

*Subcommittee Chair:* Tim Coffey, Longwood University

*Staff Liaisons:* Amanda Conklin, Division I Governance  
Leilani Hubbard, Academic and Membership Affairs  
John Parsons, Sport Science Institute  
Anne Rohlman, Sport Science Institute  
Geoff Silver, Academic and Membership Affairs

<b>NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Health And Safety Subgroup May 30, 2023, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Deena Casiero, University of Connecticut.	
Timothy Coffey, Longwood University (chair).	
Noreen Morris, Northeast Conference (SVPC chair).	
Nicole Pieart, Lake Forest College (CSMAS chair).	
Cody Shimp, NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Kim Terrell, University of Oregon.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Pam Hinton-Bruzina, University of Missouri, Columbia.	
Jennifer Strawley, University of Miami (Florida).	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Amanda Conklin, Leilani Hubbard, John Parsons, Anne Rohlman and Geoff Silver.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Greg Pottorff.	

**Division:** I

**Proposal Number:** 2023-

**Title:** DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP -- INDEPENDENT MEDICAL CARE -- POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ATHLETICS HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATORS

**Status:** Draft

**Intent:** To specify that an active institution must establish policies and procedures to empower the athletics health care administrator with the authority to oversee the institution's athletics health care administration and delivery, as specified.

**Category:** Amendment

**Bylaws:** Amend 20, as follows:

20.2 Active Membership.

[20.2.1 through 20.2.3 unchanged.]

20.2.4 Conditions and Obligations of Membership.

[20.2.4.1 through 20.2.4.18 unchanged.]

20.2.4.19 Independent Medical Care. An active member institution shall establish an administrative structure that provides independent medical care and affirms the unchallengeable autonomous authority of primary athletics health care providers (team physicians and athletic trainers) to determine medical management and return-to-play decisions related to student-athletes. ~~An~~ **Additionally, an** active institution shall ~~designate an athletics health care administrator to oversee the institution's athletic health care administration and delivery;~~

**(a) Designate an athletics health care administrator to oversee the institution's athletics health care administration and delivery; and**

**(b) Establish, and review annually, policies and procedures that empower the athletics health care administrator with the authority to oversee the institution's athletics health care administration and delivery. Annual review should assess and affirm that the policies and procedures outline the role and responsibilities of the athletics health care administrator and consider positional authority, reporting lines, organizational structures and skills, knowledge and other qualifications required of the athletics health care administrator.**

[20.2.4.19.1 unchanged.]

[20.2.4.20 through 20.2.4.30 unchanged.]

[20.2.5 through 20.2.6 unchanged.]

**Source:**

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Topical Area:** Division Membership

**Rationale:** In response to recommendations made by the Transformation Committee, the Board of Directors directed the development of legislation establishing enhanced membership expectations to improve the student-athlete experience and access to health and safety measures. This proposal seeks to empower the athletics health care administrator to effectuate Association mental and physical health, safety and performance guidance, policies, legislation and other requirements. Along with this proposal, it is also recommended that the NCAA national office provide resources, when requested, to assist institutions in developing and reviewing their athletics health care administrator policies and procedures.

**Estimated Budget Impact:** None.

**Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics):** None.

**Legislative References**

Legislative Cite	Title
20.2	Active Membership.
20.2.4	Conditions and Obligations of Membership.
20.2.4.19	Independent Medical Care.



**Division:** I

**Proposal Number:** 2023-

**Title:** DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP -- REVIEW OF MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE SUPPORT SERVICES

**Status:** Draft

**Intent:** To specify that an active institution shall attest annually to completing a comprehensive review of its mental and physical health, safety and performance support services (e.g., legislative and policy requirements, best practice considerations) at least once every four years.

**Category:** Amendment

**Bylaws:** Amend 20, as follows:

20 Division Membership

[20.01 through 20.1 unchanged.]

20.2 Active Membership.

[20.2.1 through 20.2.3 unchanged.]

20.2.4 Conditions and Obligations of Membership.

[20.2.4.1 through 20.2.4.23 unchanged.]

**20.2.4.24 Review of Mental and Physical Health, Safety and Performance Support Services. An active institution shall attest annually to completing a comprehensive review of its mental and physical health, safety and performance support services (e.g., legislative and policy requirements, best practice considerations) at least once every four years.**

[20.2.4.24 through 20.2.4.30 renumbered as 20.2.4.25 through 20.2.4.31, unchanged.]

[20.2.5 through 20.2.6 unchanged.]

[20.3 through 20.10 unchanged.]

**Source:**

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Topical Area:** Division Membership

**Rationale:** In response to recommendations made by the Transformation Committee, the Board of Directors directed the development of legislation establishing enhanced membership expectations to improve the student-athlete experience and access to health and safety measures. This proposal provides one mechanism to hold schools accountable for providing mental and physical health, performance and safety support consistent with Association best practices and guidance. Although conducting a review once every four years is appropriate, conferences have the option to require more frequent reviews for their members. Conferences also have the discretion to determine whether to play a more substantive role or establish more stringent requirements (e.g., establishing a conference peer review process or engaging outside entities to conduct standardized reviews). Along with this proposal, it is also recommended that the NCAA national office provide resources, when requested, to assist institutions in conducting reviews of their support services. The importance of decision-making and participation by local medical professionals should be underscored. The athletics health care administrator should play a primary role in the review. Finally, the review of support services is intended to promote evaluation of health and safety structures and services on campus, not to usurp the judgement of local medical authorities.

**Estimated Budget Impact:** Cost associated with conducting review at least once every four years.

**Impact on Student-Athlete's Time (Academic and/or Athletics):** None.

**Legislative References**

Legislative Cite	Title
20	Division Membership
20.2	Active Membership.
20.2.4	Conditions and Obligations of Membership.



**NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND  
MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
ADVISORY GROUP STRUCTURE  
APPROVED JUNE 2023**

**Background.**

1. In response to August 2022 changes to the NCAA Constitution, and upon the recommendation of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, the NCAA Board of Governors, in January of 2023, approved [Policies and Procedures for Identifying Consensus-Based Guidance](#), which outline a process by which the Association provides guidance to the membership on mental and physical health, safety and performance topics through an advisory group structure.
2. To support these Policies and Procedures, CSMAS approved a structure of five advisory groups to include: a) the existing Concussion Safety and Mental Health Advisory Groups; and b) the creation of three additional advisory groups: a) Sport-Related Illness and Injury, 2) Performance and Training, and 3) Social and Interpersonal Health.
  - a. The a priori approach to creating advisory group structure allows for proper notice, planning and other operational support to identify consensus-based guidance that responds to membership needs in a timely way.
  - b. Identifying the topical scope of the advisory groups provides clarity to both CSMAS and the membership on the procedural avenue relevant requests will follow.

**Approved Advisory Groups.**

In June 2023, CSMAS approved the advisory group structure as outlined below. Advisory group authority and duties, composition, and other operational details will be codified in each advisory group charter.

1. **Concussion Safety Advisory Group (existing).** Maintain the existing Concussion Safety Advisory Group for the following reasons:
  - a. Historical record and operational effectiveness of existing group.
  - b. High profile nature of topic within membership and public.
2. **Mental Health (existing).** Maintain the existing Mental Health Advisory Group, which would align with new NCAA health, safety and performance strategic priorities. Could include mental health, behavioral health, disordered eating, bystander intervention, etc.

3. **Sport-related illness and injury (new).** Create a new Sport-Related Illness and Injury Advisory Group which would align with new NCAA health, safety and performance strategic priorities that would include sport-related injuries and illnesses. New advisory group scope could include:
  - a. Acute neck and spine injury.
  - b. Cardiac health.
  - c. Catastrophic injury prevention.
  - d. Exertional injury.
  - e. Infectious disease.
  - f. Relative Energy Deficiency Syndrome
  - g. Sudden cardiac arrest | death.
  - h. Sickle Cell.
4. **Performance and Training (new).** Create a new Performance Advisory Group which would align with new NCAA health, safety and performance strategic priorities. Scope could include, but not limited to:
  - a. Nutrition.
  - b. Performance (defined holistically – including physical and mental readiness).
  - c. Sleep.
  - d. Overuse injury prevention & periodization.
5. **Social and Interpersonal Health (new).** (Recommended by CSMAS, Sept. 2022) Create a new Social and Interpersonal Health Advisory Group. Scope could include, but not limited to:
  - a. Reproductive health.
  - b. Pregnant and parenting student-athletes.

- c. Sexual health.
- d. Sexual violence prevention.
- e. Gender identity and student-athlete participation.
- f. Social determinants of health and their implications.

**NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports**  
**Recommended Statement on Performance Technologies**  
*December 2014; Updated December 2016; Updated June 2023*

The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports recognizes that the adoption of performance technologies, especially wearable technologies (electronic devices designed to be worn or attached to sporting equipment to collect data on physical function, movement and/or performance) is increasing across the Association.

The increasing use and evolving nature of such technologies, as well as ongoing discussion by the membership and student-athletes, prompted an update to the 2016 statement. As in 2016, guidance on the use of such technology (e.g., privacy considerations, medical decision-making) is not widely available and research about their validity and utility is unsettled. Consequently, CSMAS notes the following considerations for schools employing performance technologies:

1. **Intent, Transparency and Privacy.** Prior to implementing performance technology, schools should consider the following:
  - a. What is the intent for the use of this technology? What is the intent for the collection and use of collected data?
  - b. Has consent been established for the collection and use of the data?
  - c. Who has access to the data and how will user privacy be protected?
  - d. Will the data inform decision-making processes (e.g., playing time, medical treatment), and if so, how?
  - e. What are the unintended social, behavioral and mental impacts on student-athletes (e.g., impact of surveillance, perceptions of required versus voluntary athletic activity, privacy) and have they been appropriately mitigated?
  - f. Has use been vetted with athletic compliance to ensure it meets applicable legislation (e.g., voluntary athletic activity)?

Schools should consider developing written policies and procedures on the use of performance technology that could be shared with student-athletes, coaches and the sports medicine team.

2. **Involvement of Sports Medicine Team.** CSMAS notes that the sports medicine team should be involved in determining if and how performance technology should be implemented, monitored and/or used in medical decision-making. This collaboration supports appropriate consideration of student-athlete health, safety and performance. The team should include, but not be limited to, the primary athletics health care providers and strength and conditioning professionals. Performance technology should not be implemented without collaboration with the sports medicine team.

Further, and consistent with NCAA legislation, performance technologies and the data they generate should be used for medical decision making in a manner that is consistent with the Independent Medical Care legislation. Specifically, medical decisions informed by performance technology should be made in the sole interest of student-athlete health and welfare. The primary athletics health care providers should be empowered with unchallengeable autonomous authority to determine medical management and return-to-play decisions of student-athletes in this setting.

3. **Playing rules.** NCAA playing rules committees and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel should continue to review existing and relevant playing rules and consider changes that would contribute to a more permissive environment for medical decision-making. Additionally, policies involving performance technology should avoid implicit or explicit endorsement of a specific product. Any rules modifications should be mindful of, and should not violate, existing playing equipment standards, certifications and/or warranties.
4. **Interest in further guidance.** CSMAS acknowledges that the use of these technologies raises many questions that are, to date, unanswered. Should the membership request additional guidance, CSMAS will evaluate referring the issue to an appropriate advisory group and/or commissioning a summit on the topic to better understand how performance technologies can advance the health, safety and performance of college student-athletes.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA HONORS COMMITTEE  
JUNE 29, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome.** The chair welcomed the committee members.
2. **Committee report.** The committee approved the report of its September 30, 2022, videoconference.
3. **Policies and procedures.** NCAA staff reviewed the policies and procedures for the Theodore Roosevelt Award, the Silver Anniversary Award, the Inspiration Award and the Award of Valor. It was noted that after the committee selects all honorees, the next step is to confirm the honorees' participation with the nominators.
4. **Honors Celebration overview.** NCAA staff shared a recap of the 2023 event and highlighted plans for honoring the awardees in January 2024.
5. **Theodore Roosevelt Award selection.** The committee selected the 2024 Theodore Roosevelt Award recipient.
6. **Silver Anniversary Award selection.** The committee selected six individuals to receive a 2024 Silver Anniversary Award.
7. **Inspiration Award selection.** The committee selected two individuals to receive 2024 Inspiration Awards.
8. **Award of Valor selection.** The committee chose not to select an Award of Valor recipient for 2024.
9. **Update on promotion of Silver Anniversary nomination submissions.** NCAA staff provided an update on the Silver Anniversary nominations promotion plan.
10. **Today's Top 10 athletics scoring.** NCAA staff presented suggested changes to the Today's Top 10 athletics scoring rubric. The committee approved the changes, as proposed.
11. **Committee positions.** NCAA staff noted that two committee members' terms will expire in January 2024. These committee positions are allocated for nationally distinguished citizen representatives, and nominees will be recommended by the committee before they are forwarded to the three divisional governance bodies for approval.



**12. Future meeting.** The committee will meet via videoconference on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, to select Today's Top 10 honorees.

**13. Adjournment.** The videoconference was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Andrew Alia, Northeast Conference

*Staff Liaisons:* Stacey Preston, Communications

Nora Loechel, Regulatory Affairs

Russell Register, Regulatory Affairs

NCAA Honors Committee June 29, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Andrew Alia, Northeast Conference.	
Jessica Brown, North Central College.	
Christopher Davis, Microsoft.	
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University.	
Nick Joos, Iowa State University.	
LaRee Sugg, University of Richmond.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Anita DeFrantz, The Tubman Truth Corporation.	
Austin Lane, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.	
Chaunte Lowe, Olympian and motivational speaker.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>	
Nora Loechel, Stacey Preston and Russell Register.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Nicole Ezeh and Melody Lawrence.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL  
JULY 19, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** Tiffany Daniels, chair of the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel, welcomed the panel. PROP reviewed the 2022-23 roster and sport assignments.
2. **Duties and conflict of interest.**
  - a. **Duties.** PROP reviewed its duties, noting the specific responsibilities of reviewing rule recommendations pertaining to safety, finances and image of the game.
  - b. **Conflict of Interest Statement.** PROP also reviewed the NCAA Conflict of Interest Statement.
3. **Approval of June 8, 2023, videoconference report.** PROP approved the report as written.
4. **NCAA Swimming and Diving Rules Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved 13 rules changes submitted by the Swimming and Diving Rules Committee, which included:
  - a. Permitting the use of underwater cameras to confirm swimming infractions (stroke and turn violations) called by an official on deck;
  - b. Permitting the use of tape, kinesiology tape, and compression sleeves to treat documented medical conditions, but not gain an advantage over the remainder of the field. The change will require documentation from a physician or certified athletic trainer identifying the necessary placement of the support;
  - c. Clarifying criteria for uniforms and swimsuits for swimmers and divers;
  - d. Establishing rules regarding the number of swim caps that may be used by swimmers and the permissible identifying marks that may appear on the cap;
  - e. Eliminating the requirement for human relay takeoff judges and human backup timers when overhead camera systems are used;
  - f. Permitting a re-dive request to be made by the diver or the diver's coach;
  - g. Changing language in the diving judge responsibilities from "more than 90 degrees" to "90 degrees or more";

- h. Removing championship specific procedures from the Entries and Events playing rules;
- i. Allowing ties to be decided by a method other than a swim-off, such as a coin toss, if agreed upon by both coaches in consultation with the athlete(s). If there is no agreement, a swim-off will be held;
- j. Establishing a permissive and optional team diving event under the meet programs. Mutual agreement is required to conduct the team diving event;
- k. Permitting the use of video review during diving events;
- l. Permitting the use of video when a balk judge is not available on the 10M platform event; and
- m. Revising the standard for bona fide competition to clearly define competition criteria during a non-championship, non-NCAA Championship, or invitational meet.

**5. NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved four rules changes submitted by the Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee, which included:

- a. Requiring players to leave the field of play until the next dead ball when their helmet comes off during a live ball;
- b. Establishing video review criteria that is permissible but not required for regular season and postseason competition to review certain timing scenarios and goals;
- c. Establishing video review criteria that is permissible but not required for regular season and postseason competition to review contact to the head and/or neck area; and
- d. Establishing one coach's challenge each half or one timeout during any overtime period(s). If the challenge is successful, the coach will retain the challenge. If unsuccessful, the coach will lose the challenge and a timeout. Lastly, during the last four minutes of the second half and for the duration of any overtime period, reviews will be conducted by referees' discretion.

**6. NCAA Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved 18 rules changes and one experimental rule submitted by the Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee, which included:

- a. Requiring all feet be behind the 8-meter arc during a free position;
- b. Permitting any player on the field of play at the time of a foul to take a team's awarded free position not within the 8-meter arc;

- c. Modifying language to specify that broken shafts will not be permitted to return to the game;
- d. Permitting the use of ND 200 compression shirts;
- e. Permitting the use of shoes with soles containing aluminum, leather, rubber, nylon or plastic cleats, studs or bars, as long as the official does not consider them dangerous, similar to soccer;
- f. Establishing that for all games, media timeouts shall be two minutes in length;
- g. Permitting teams to regain position during a power play at the start of the next period or overtime;
- h. Requiring officials to position drawers' sticks in an upright position for the draw;
- i. Establishing a new foul for flopping and embellishment;
- j. Increasing the penalty for physical contact between the restraining lines;
- k. Modifying "Dangerous Stick in the Sphere" as a mandatory card foul;
- l. Modifying a sweeping check from behind as a mandatory card foul;
- m. Modifying the current fifth foul listed under "Illegal Use of the Stick" to include attempting to hook the bottom of an opponent's stick as a foul;
- n. Adding a new delay of game foul for a player who doesn't run off the field, enter and remain in the penalty area after a cardable foul;
- o. Increasing the offside foul penalty in the defensive end to a one-minute releasable penalty;
- p. Increasing the penalty time for a red card from two minutes to five minutes;
- q. Modifying "simultaneous whistles" for shooting space to be played out;
- r. Modifying "simultaneous whistles" for non-shooting space fouls to be played out unless it is affecting the shooter; and
- s. Modifying video review as an experimental rule to include additional replay opportunities in a game.

7. **NCAA men's and women's track and field secretary-rules editor performance evaluation results and term extension request.** PROP reviewed the secretary-rules editor performance evaluation report for Mark Kostek and the NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee's July 6 email report. PROP approved the Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee's request to extend the term of the secretary-rules editor for four years, with the third and final four-year term ending August 31, 2028. To establish an effective succession plan, the Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee will conduct a search for a replacement in summer 2027. The individual selected will shadow the current secretary-rules editor for one year and assume the role of secretary-rules editor September 1, 2028.
8. **NCAA Board of Governors review of Association-wide committees.** Following the adoption of the new constitution in January 2022, the NCAA Board of Governors began a review of Association-wide committees to determine their relevance, assess whether potential changes would better align the committees' work with the new constitution and determine how to streamline the Association-wide governance structure. As part of this review, PROP was asked to assess its duties as it relates to the following: legislated duties, responsibilities, and composition; history of key actions (legislative and non-legislative) and informational items; determine whether the work of PROP has been absorbed by other governance committees/councils and/or national office staff; and determine whether PROP's work should continue or be streamlined. Based on the scope of PROP's duties and responsibilities, which includes oversight of 13 rules committees and the rules modification process for 11 sports whose rules are maintained outside of the NCAA, in addition to the fact that no other committee has absorbed its work, PROP recommended that it continue in its role as an Association-wide committee.
9. **Discussion of secretary-rules editors as active officials.** PROP tabled a discussion on whether NCAA secretary-rules editors should be allowed to serve as active officials during the regular season based on repeated requests from secretary-rules editors, in addition to the growing concerns associated with shortages of officials and a lack of quality candidate pools for the secretary-rules editor positions. PROP requested that additional information be provided during an upcoming videoconference regarding the rationale for the decision by PROP in 2011 to disallow secretary-rules editors from serving as active coaches or game officials.
10. **Future meeting dates.** The next PROP videoconference is scheduled for 1 p.m. Eastern time, Thursday, August 10.
11. **Other business.** PROP did not have other business.
12. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:04 p.m. Eastern time.

Report of the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel

July 19, 2023, Videoconference

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*Committee Chair: Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Ben Brownlee, 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  
Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Andy Supergan, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating*

NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel July 19, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.	
Joseph D'Antonio, Coastal Athletic Association.	
Robert Davenport, Oklahoma Baptist University.	
Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference.	
David Hicks, King University.	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Scott Musa, Wilkes University.	
Emily Parkins, Patriot League.	
Joe Schaly, Thiel College.	
Ed Scott, University of Virginia.	
Brad Walker, America East Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
John Neese, Hardin-Simmons University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Stefanie Smith, NCAA women's lacrosse secretary-rules editor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Ben Brownlee, Jay Fitzwater, Ashlee Follis, Ty Halpin, Rachel Seewald and Andy Supergan.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Theresa Ekhelar, Greg Johnson, Sarah Lounsbury, Stephanie Quigg and Bri Rigney.	



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL  
AUGUST 10, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Welcome and announcements.** Tiffany Daniels, chair of the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel, welcomed the panel. PROP reviewed the 2022-23 roster and sport assignments.
- 2. Duties and conflict of interest.**
  - a. Duties.** PROP reviewed its duties, noting the specific responsibilities of reviewing rule recommendations pertaining to safety, finances and image of the game.
  - b. Conflict of Interest Statement.** PROP also reviewed the NCAA Conflict of Interest Statement.
- 3. Approval of July 19, 2023, videoconference report.** PROP approved the report as written.
- 4. NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee annual meeting report, email report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved two rules modifications submitted by the Men's Gymnastics Committee, which included:
  - a. Changing the break format for dual meet competitions when using two breaks, from two, three-minute breaks to two, four-minute breaks, or one, six-minute halftime; and
  - b. Clarifying that the deduction for an unmarked or improperly marked landing zone on the vault is to be taken from the competing team when using the additional sting mat.
- 5. NCAA Ice Hockey Rules Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved two rules changes submitted by the Ice Hockey Rules Committee, which included:
  - a. Removing infractions for too many players on the ice as part of the video replay criteria; and
  - b. Clarifying that during a replay review, only the aspect of the play in question may be reviewed.

It was also noted that Krissy Langley was recently hired as the national coordinator of women's ice hockey officials. The official [NCAA announcement](#) details her extensive experience.

6. **NCAA Softball Rules Committee annual meeting report, videoconference report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved 12 rules changes submitted by the Softball Rules Committee, which included:
- a. Allowing the use of a double base at first base;
  - b. For all new construction, requiring the fence distance to be 200 feet in left and right fields;
  - c. Eliminating the requirement that bats have a ¼-inch knob protrusion;
  - d. Prohibiting assistant coaches, who are not in a coach's box or serving as the acting head coach, from communicating with an umpire(s). Violations shall result in an immediate ejection of the violator(s);
  - e. Allowing the use of an exclusively one-way electronic communication device from the dugout to the field for the purpose of relaying the pitch or play call;
  - f. Revising the permissible video review situations;
  - g. Allowing a postgame review of only those ejections that include a suspension;
  - h. Clarifying the obstruction rule;
  - i. Allowing pitchers to disengage from the playing surface during the delivery;
  - j. Changing the time between pitches from 25 seconds to 20 seconds;
  - k. Allowing a visible action clock(s) to assist in enforcing all timing rules equitably; and
  - l. Allowing the pitcher one throw to any base during the warmup time.
7. **NCAA Division III and National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Committees annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved two rules modifications submitted by the Division III and National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Committees, which included:
- a. Adopting the women's volleyball challenge review system procedures with one exception to permit three challenges, rather than two; and
  - b. Establishing a 3-meter restraining line on the playing surface to help keep bench personnel and student-athletes out of the playing surface during play.



8. **NCAA Baseball Rules Committee annual meeting report.** PROP reviewed and approved the annual meeting report submitted by the Baseball Rules Committee. No rules changes were proposed during the non-rules change year.
9. **NCAA Water Polo Rules Subcommittee annual meeting report.** PROP reviewed and approved the annual meeting report submitted by the Water Polo Rules Subcommittee. No rules changes were proposed during the non-rules change year.
10. **NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee annual meeting report.** PROP reviewed and approved the annual meeting report submitted by the Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee. No rules changes were proposed during the non-rules change year.
11. **Discussion of secretary-rules editors as active officials.** PROP continued its discussion from its July videoconference regarding secretary-rules editors serving as active officials. PROP agreed to table the discussion until the annual meeting in January 2024.
12. **Federated rules processes.** PROP reviewed the federated rules processes for each division and noted that additional discussion on these processes should take place during the annual meeting in January 2024.
13. **Future meeting dates.** The next PROP videoconference is scheduled for 1 p.m. Eastern time, Thursday, September 7. PROP's annual meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, during the 2024 NCAA Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.
14. **Other business.** Two outgoing PROP members, David Hicks (King University) and Matt Kilcullen (Mercy College), were recognized and thanked for their service.
15. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:56 p.m. Eastern time.

Report of the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel

August 10, 2023, Videoconference

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*Committee Chair: Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Ben Brownlee, 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  
Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating  
Andy Supergan, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating*

NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel August 10, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.	
Joseph D'Antonio, Coastal Athletic Association.	
Robert Davenport, Oklahoma Baptist University.	
David Hicks, King University.	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Scott Musa, Wilkes University.	
John Neese, Hardin-Simmons University.	
Emily Parkins, Patriot League.	
Joe Schaly, Thiel College.	
Ed Scott, University of Virginia.	
Brad Walker, America East Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Ben Brownlee, Jay Fitzwater, Ashlee Follis, Ty Halpin, Rachel Seewald and Andy Supergan.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Theresa Ekhelar, Greg Johnson and Bri Rigney.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
JULY 11, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome.** The chair, Jameica Hill, convened the meeting and welcomed the committee to Indianapolis.
2. **Report of the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee meeting.** The committee approved the report of its June 5-6, 2023, meeting.
3. **Discuss NCAA Board of Governors review of Association-wide committees.** The committee conducted a review of its composition, duties/responsibilities and previous action as requested by the Board of Governors. The committee agreed that its work is unique and should continue to assist former student-athletes with continuing their education beyond the baccalaureate level.
4. **Discuss change to regional committee duties.** The committee agreed to restructure the duties of the postgraduate regional committee and noted that a checklist would be provided to the regional committee detailing the five areas the national committee would like for it to focus its review.
5. **Vote for chair.** The committee approved Patricio I. Meneses, faculty athletics representative from Fordham University, as the next committee chair beginning in the 2023-24 academic year.
6. **Review of postgraduate scholarship applications.** The committee reviewed 86 winter sport applications (32 men and 54 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:* Jameica Hill, Wofford College  
*Staff Liaison:* Lori Thomas, Administrative Services

NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee July 11, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Tom Cody, Western Illinois University.	
Jameica Hill, Wofford College.	
Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University.	
Kelcy McKenna, University of Wisconsin-Madison.	
Patricio I. Meneses, Fordham University.	
John Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University.	
Heather Ryan, Duke University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:</b>	
Lori Thomas.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
None.	

## **Division II Operating Plan**

**NCAA Mission:** Provide a world-class athletic and academic experience for student-athletes that fosters lifelong well-being.

**DII Vision:** Provide a balanced and inclusive environment in which student-athletes develop and learn through their desired academic pursuits, civic engagement and athletics competition.

### **DII Commitments:**

- Empower student-athletes to compete in the classroom, in athletics and in their career.
- Ensure that the athletics experience is a part of, not apart from, the educational experience.
- Support student-athletes' personal and professional development as they prepare to successfully transition to life after sport.
- Shape athletics participation to enhance and protect student-athletes' mental, physical and social well-being.
- Deliver a championships program that provides equitable, memorable and outstanding postseason experiences.
- Operate an efficient, effective and inclusive governance structure that enables Division II members to actualize the mission and vision.

### **DII Strategic Priorities:**

- **Academics**
  - Maintain rules and policies that enable institutions to provide a balanced academic and athletics experience; enable student-athletes to pursue their chosen academic curricula without athletics negatively impacting that decision.
  - Continue to achieve a student-athlete graduation rate above that of the general student body.
  - Promote and honor institutions and conferences that achieve a high level of academic success.
- **Governance**
  - Maintain a diverse and inclusive governance structure that represents all Division II constituents through the one school/one vote legislative process at the NCAA Convention.
  - Increase participation in the governance structure from all levels (e.g., presidents/chancellors, athletics directors, commissioners, senior woman administrators, faculty athletics representatives, coaches, student-athletes, staff).
  - Ensure a strong student-athlete presence in decision-making at the campus, conference and national levels.
  - Use innovative research to inform decision making.
- **Athletics**
  - Seek innovative approaches to support up-and-coming sports that offer new, exciting and equitable opportunities.

- Create a game environment at the campus, conference and national levels that is welcoming, inclusive, fan-friendly, entertaining and civil.
  - Celebrate student-athletes' success in the classroom, in the community and on the playing field.
  - Implement a championships selections methodology that enhances the postseason for participants and fans without compromising the regional model as a core tenet of the Division II regular-season experience.
  - Ensure an access ratio for championships that optimizes postseason participation opportunities.
  - Develop initiatives and practices that strengthen the officiating pool; provide education, training and resources to support current officials and attract new officials.
- **Membership**
    - Create and maintain achievable and meaningful membership standards that position Division II as a destination of choice.
    - Maintain presidential oversight of the division's budgeting process that protects membership interests and supports excellent championships programming.
    - Help institutions and conferences enhance their community engagement operations and strengthen relationships.
    - Develop educational materials and resources that help institutions support a culture of compliance.
    - Provide leadership and professional development opportunities for student-athletes, athletics administrators, coaches and faculty members.
    - Seek new revenue streams and opportunities to increase ticket sales, corporate sponsorships and media partnerships.
    - Promote and celebrate the Division II brand through the Make It Yours platform to enhance the public's knowledge and appreciation of the Division II experience.
- **Wellness**
    - Protect student-athlete well-being through policies and legislation that enhance health and safety.
    - Emphasize access and opportunity as a best business practice at the campus, conference and national levels.
    - Continue creating an environment/culture that supports and enhances total wellness for all individuals (physical, mental, social and personal well-being).



## Division II Operating Plan Breakout Session Questions

1. This document is intentionally structured similarly to the NCAA Operating Plan to demonstrate that while Division II is unique, it operates within the parent brand.

As such, the DII Vision statement is meant to complement and align with the overall NCAA Mission statement. The DII Vision statement is excerpted from the current DII positioning statement (our Life in the Balance positioning statement). Do you believe this is appropriate?

2. The purpose of this document is to position Division II governance committees and councils to begin identifying and developing goals and objectives for the 2026-32 strategic plan.

As such, the section entitled "DII Commitments" is meant to offer broad, overarching areas of focus that are more than just aspirational, but rather, statements that are meaningful, reasonable, and achievable — and that align with DII values. Do you believe these commitment statements satisfy that objective? Should any be deleted, or should anything be added that we've missed?

3. The DII Strategic Priorities section and the five categories within it are subsets of the DII Commitments and are based on areas that have appeared in previous strategic plans or have been identified already within the governance structure as a DII need or desired outcome.

Do you believe the five categories appropriately capture the big picture (in other words, could you envision these five areas comprising the primary focus areas within the strategic plan)? Should another area or areas be added? Similarly, do the bullet points beneath each heading adequately reflect desired outcomes within these categories? Is there anything obvious that is missing?







REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
NOMINATING SUBCOMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 5, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

The Division II Management Council Nominating Subcommittee met October 5 via videoconference to discuss the Management Council nominations and to prepare candidate recommendations to the Management Council that the subcommittee believes fulfill the requirements set forth in NCAA Constitution 8.2 of the Division II Manual. Prior to discussing candidates and their qualifications, the subcommittee reviewed the composition of the Management Council, compared current nominees against those presidents/chancellors serving on the Executive Board in 2024, and reviewed the historical representation of the Management Council.

The subcommittee noted that with the eight vacancies, the Council would be at the minimum number for senior woman administrators and faculty athletics representatives, which will be a minimum of five directors of athletics; five senior woman administrators; five faculty athletics representatives; and two conference administrators, effective February 1, 2024.

The subcommittee also noted that with the vacancies, ethnic diversity decreased by one member, from five to four.

**Management Council Nominations.** The following are the recommendations for eight vacancies (i.e., two immediate vacancies, four January 2024 vacancies and two vacancies effective February 1), as proposed by the subcommittee. [See Attachment I for ballot.]

1. **Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference** (replacing Mark Corino, director of athletics, Caldwell University). [Attachment A]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **Kristina Ortiz**, senior woman administrator, Georgian Court University.

Kristina Ortiz, the senior woman administrator, is a former national SAAC member and former SAAC representative for the Management Council. She has also served on two Association-wide committees. She has been at her institution since 2021. She is considered to be an “up and coming” administrator who is a task oriented, hard worker.

With two senior woman administrators terms expiring, this appointment will help to increase the number of senior woman administrators on the Council.

Kristina would increase the ethnic diversity on the Council.

This appointment would be effective January 13, 2024.

2. **Conference Carolinas** (replacing Brenda Cates, faculty athletics representative, University of Mount Olive). [Attachment B]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **David Hicks**, director of athletics, King University.

David Hicks, the director of athletics, was chosen for his extensive experience in intercollegiate athletics at the national and conference levels. He currently serves on the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) and is serving or had served on sport and rules committees and multiple regional advisory committees. He also currently serves on the Division II Athletics Directors Association board of directors. He has been at his institution since 2011.

This appointment would be effective January 13, 2024.

3. **Great Lakes Valley Conference** (replacing Jerry Wollmering, director of athletics, Truman State University). [Attachment C]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **Kristy Bayer**, director of athletics, Rockhurst University.

Kristy Bayer, the director of athletics, was chosen due to her varied experience in Division II as a student-athlete, assistant coach, head coach and athletic director. She currently serves on the Championships Committee and the NCAA Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity. She has also served on sport committees, PROP and regional advisory committees. She is a former NCAA Pathways Program participant and serves as a mentor for the ADA mentor program.

This appointment would be effective January 13, 2024.

4. **Great Northwest Athletic Conference** (replacing Theresa Hanson, director of athletics, Simon Fraser University). [Attachment D]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **Peter Crabb**, faculty athletics representative, Northwest Nazarene University.

All three nominees to the Council from the Great Northwest Athletic Conference were limited in their committee experience. Peter Crabb, the faculty athletics representative, was chosen for his experience within the FAR community. With one faculty athletics representative's terms expiring, this appointment will help increase the number of faculty athletics representatives on the Council.

This appointment would be effective immediately.

5. **Mountain East Conference** (replacing Kristi Kiefer, senior woman administrator, Fairmont State University). [Attachment E]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **Rubin Stevenson**, senior associate director of athletics for internal operations, Frostburg State University.

Rubin Stevenson was chosen due to his experience and committee service after having served on several Division III committees. He has also participated in the MOAA governance academy and the Student-Athlete Leadership Forums as a facilitator.

As a senior associate director of athletics, Rubin would enhance positional diversity on the council.

Rubin would also enhance ethnic diversity on the council.

This appointment would be effective February 1, 2024, since this appointment is not a director of athletics, senior woman administrator, faculty athletics representative, or conference representative.

6. **Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference** (replacing Carrie Michaels, senior woman administrator, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania). [Attachment F]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **Carlin Chesick**, senior associate commissioner/senior woman administrator, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

Carlin Chesick, the conference administrator, was chosen for her experience in Division II. She has been at the conference office since 2005. She has served on Legislation Committee, including as chair, as well as a sport committee, selection committee and two regional advisory committees. She has also co-chaired the Division II CCACA.

This appointment would be effective January 13, 2024.

7. **Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** (replacing Curtis Campbell, director of athletics, Morehouse College). [Attachment G]

Subcommittee Recommendation. **Jerry Haywood**, faculty athletics representative, Fort Valley State University.

Jerry Haywood, the faculty athletics representative, was chosen for his experience working in several different roles, including academic advising and academic support for student-athletes, implementation of institutional control measures in academics, athletics committee oversight, and diversity and inclusion in athletics on our campus.

Jerry would enhance ethnic diversity of the council.

This appointment would be effective immediately.

8. **At-Large Representative** (New Position – one vacancy). [Attachment H]

Report of the NCAA Division II Management Council

Nominating Subcommittee

October 5, 2023, Videoconference

Page No. 4

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Subcommittee Recommendation. The subcommittee is putting forth three nominees for the Management Council's consideration and selection of one candidate: **Jennifer Bell**, director of athletics, Converse University; **Traci Murphy**, director of athletics, Daemen University; and **Kim Pate**, director of athletics, Lenoir-Rhyne University.

All three nominees have extensive experience. Selecting any of these nominees would not change the composition of the Management Council.

This appointment would be effective February 1, 2024.

Representation by Gender, Ethnic Diversity and Valued Positions with Vacancies:

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Position</u>
6	Director of athletics
5	Senior woman administrators
5	Faculty athletics representatives
3	Conference administrators
2	SAAC representatives

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Gender/Ethnic Diversity</u>
9	Males
12	Females
4	Ethnic minorities

Representation by Gender, Ethnic Diversity and Valued Positions with Recommended Selections

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Position</u>
9	Director of athletics
6	Senior woman administrators
7	Faculty athletics representatives
4	Conference administrators
2	SAAC representatives

<u>Number of Representatives</u>	<u>Gender/Ethnic Diversity</u>
13	Males
16	Females
7	Ethnic minorities

*Subcommittee Chair: Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania*  
*Staff Liaison(s): Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*  
*Maritza S. Jones, Division II Governance*

Division II Management Council Nominating Subcommittee October 5, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University.	
Brenda Cate, University of Mount Olive.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Mark Corino, Caldwell University.	
Kristi Kiefer, Fairmont State University.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau and Maritza Jones.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Kendee Hilliard, Ryan Jones and Jill Waddell.	



**NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
CONFERENCE NOMINATION FORM**

***DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS***

Individual Nominated Joseph Clinton  
 Institution Dominican University New York  
 E-Mail joe.clinton@duny.edu Phone Number (845) 848-7700

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

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***SENIOR WOMAN ADMINISTRATOR***

Individual Nominated Kristina Ortiz  
 Institution Georgian Court University  
 E-Mail kortiz@georgian.edu Phone Number 732-987-2661

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

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***FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE***

Individual Nominated Dr. John Pierce  
 Institution Thomas Jefferson University  
 E-Mail john.pierce@jefferson.edu Phone Number 215-951-5371

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

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***CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR (OPTIONAL)***

Individual Nominated Daniel Mara  
 Institution Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference  
 E-Mail dmara@cacathletics.org Phone Number 203-298-48-0

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

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

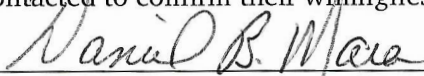
Institution \_\_\_\_\_

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 name)

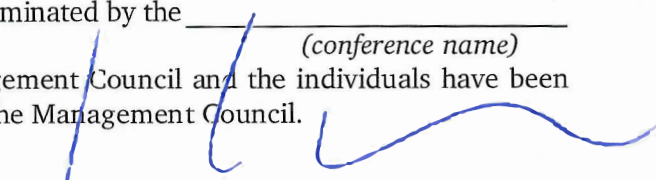
to represent its members on the Division II Management Council and the individuals have been contacted to confirm their willingness to serve on the Management Council.



Conference Commissioner

7/24/23

Date

  
Chief Executive Officer within the Conference

July 25, 2023

Date

Please forward by Friday, July 28, to Maritza Jones, managing director of Division II,  
via e-mail at [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org).



**NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
CONFERENCE NOMINATION FORM**

***DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS***

Individual Nominated Kristy Bayer  
 Institution Rockhurst University  
 E-Mail kristy.bayer@rockhurst.edu Phone Number 479-223-0046

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

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***SENIOR WOMAN ADMINISTRATOR***

Individual Nominated Jessie Chandler  
 Institution University of Missouri-St. Louis  
 E-Mail chandlerjb@umsl.edu Phone Number 812-525-6502

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

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***FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE***

Individual Nominated Kevin Schriver  
 Institution Southwest Baptist University  
 E-Mail kschriver@sbuniv.edu Phone Number 417-300-2411

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

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***CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR (OPTIONAL)***

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
 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

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

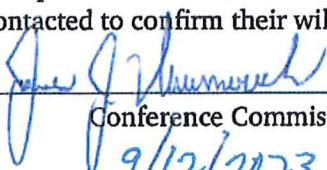
Institution \_\_\_\_\_

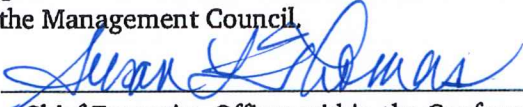
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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 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.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Conference Commissioner  
9/12/2023  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer within the Conference  
9/13/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please forward by Friday, July 28, to Maritza Jones, managing director of Division II,  
via e-mail at [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org).

NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
CONFERENCE NOMINATION FORM*DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS*

Individual Nominated Randi Lydum  
Institution Western Oregon University  
E-Mail lydumr@wou.edu Phone Number 419-576-6775 (cell)

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 Laura Dahlby Nicolai  
Institution Central Washington University  
E-Mail Laura.DahlbyNicolai@cwu.edu Phone Number 206-805-9088 (cell)

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 Peter Crabb  
Institution Northwest Nazarene University  
E-Mail prcrabb@nnu.edu Phone Number 208-546-9472

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 n/a  
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

**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 n/a

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  
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*ADDITIONAL NOMINEE (OPTIONAL)*

Individual Nominated n/a

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  
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I hereby certify that these individuals have been nominated by the GNAC  
*(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.

**David Haglund** Digitally signed by David Haglund  
Date: 2023.08.12 09:57:45 -07'00'

Conference Commissioner

**Stefani Hicswa** Digitally signed by Stefani Hicswa  
Date: 2023.08.11 18:14:51 -06'00'

Chief Executive Officer within the Conference

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please forward by Thursday, August 17, to Maritza Jones, managing director of  
Division II, via e-mail at [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org).

NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
CONFERENCE NOMINATION FORM*DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS*

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*SENIOR WOMAN ADMINISTRATOR*

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE*

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR (OPTIONAL)*

Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**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

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*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

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I hereby certify that these individuals have been nominated by the \_\_\_\_\_  
(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.

Reid S. Amos

Dr. J. Michael Pressimone

Conference Commissioner

Chief Executive Officer within the Conference

Date

Date

Please forward by Friday, July 28, to Maritza Jones, managing director of Division II,  
via e-mail at [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org).

Management Council At-Large Vacancy Nominees  
October 2023 Election

Eligible Nominees							
Name	Position	Institution	Email Address	Gender	Enhance Minority	Conference	Form Remitted
Andro Barnett	FAR	Shepherd University	<a href="mailto:abarnett@shepherd.edu">abarnett@shepherd.edu</a>	M	Y	PSAC	Y
Jenn Bell	AD	Converse University	<a href="mailto:jennifer.bell@converse.edu">jennifer.bell@converse.edu</a>	F	N	CC	Y
Kevicia Brown	AD	Central State University	<a href="mailto:kabrown@centralstate.edu">kabrown@centralstate.edu</a>	F	Y	SIAC	Y
Amber Rae Childers	Associate AD for Internal Ops/SWA	Auburn University at Montgomery	<a href="mailto:Achilde1@aum.edu">Achilde1@aum.edu</a>	F	N	GSC	Y
Susan Hopper	Registrar	Union University	<a href="mailto:shopper@uu.edu">shopper@uu.edu</a>	F		GSC	Y
Traci Murphy	AD	Daemen University	<a href="mailto:tmurphy@daemen.edu">tmurphy@daemen.edu</a>	F	N	ECC	Y
Kim Pate	AD	Lenoir-Rhyne University	<a href="mailto:kim.pate@lr.edu">kim.pate@lr.edu</a>	F	N	SAC	Y
Suzanne Sanregret	VP for Athletics and Recreation	Michigan Technological University	<a href="mailto:srsanreg@mtu.edu">srsanreg@mtu.edu</a>	F	N	GLIAC	Y
Leslie Schuemann	Deputy Commissioner/SWA	Great Midwest Athletic Conference	<a href="mailto:leslie.schuemann@greatmidwestsports.com">leslie.schuemann@greatmidwestsports.com</a>	F	N	GMAC	Y
Erika Torrez	Associate AD for Compliance/SWA	Wingate University	<a href="mailto:e.torrez@wingate.edu">e.torrez@wingate.edu</a>	F	Y	SAC	Y

Ineligible Nominees							
Name	Position	Institution	Email Address	Gender	Enhance Minority	Conference	Form Remitted
Scott Brickett	Assistant AD for Sports Medicine	University of Tampa	<a href="mailto:Wbrickett@ut.edu">Wbrickett@ut.edu</a>	M	N	SSC	N
Peter Crabb	FAR	Northwest Nazarene University	<a href="mailto:prcrabb@nnu.edu">prcrabb@nnu.edu</a>	M	N	GNAC	Y
Jim Crawley	FAR	Dominican University New York	<a href="mailto:jim.crawley@dunyo.edu">jim.crawley@dunyo.edu</a>	M	N	CACC	Y

Ineligible Nominees							
Name	Position	Institution	Email Address	Gender	Enhance Minority	Conference	Form Remitted
Wendell Staton	AD	Georgia College and State University	<a href="mailto:wendell.staton@gcsu.edu">wendell.staton@gcsu.edu</a>	M	N	PBC	Y
Jason Stock	Associate AD for Compliance	California State University, San Marcos	<a href="mailto:jstock@csusm.edu">jstock@csusm.edu</a>	M	N	CCAA	N
Scott Zema	Head Athletic Trainer	Pennsylvania Western University, California	<a href="mailto:zema@pennwest.edu">zema@pennwest.edu</a>	M	N	PSAC	N
<i>The candidates above are non-minority candidates who would not enhance the diversity or gender on the Council.</i>							
Bashar Hanna	President	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	<a href="mailto:bhanna@commonwealthu.edu">bhanna@commonwealthu.edu</a>	M	Y	PSAC	N
<i>The candidate above is ineligible to serve since the at-large representative should be filled by individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics up to the vice president level.</i>							
Charles Hammond	Vice President of Operations and Planning	Goldey-Beacom College	<a href="mailto:hammond@gbc.edu">hammond@gbc.edu</a>	M	N	CACC	N
Matisse Lee	Associate AD/SWA	Claflin University	<a href="mailto:Matisse.lee@claflin.edu">Matisse.lee@claflin.edu</a>	F	Y	CIAA	N
<i>Colleen Perry Keith, president Goldey-Beacom College (term expires January 2026) serves on the Division II Presidents Council/Executive Board Dwaun Warmack, president, Claflin University (term expires January 2028) serves on the Division II Presidents Council/Executive Board.</i>							
Alexis Anderson	Senior Associate AD for Compliance/SWA	Miles College	<a href="mailto:aanderson@miles.edu">aanderson@miles.edu</a>	F	Y	SIAC	N
Hudson Byrnes	Head Athletic Trainer	University of West Alabama	<a href="mailto:hbyrnes@uwa.edu">hbyrnes@uwa.edu</a>	M		GSC	N
Jody Goins	Executive Vice President for Administration	Lincoln Memorial University	<a href="mailto:jody.goins@lmunet.edu">jody.goins@lmunet.edu</a>	M	Y	SAC	N
Abraham Joseph	Assistant AD for Compliance	Holy Family University	<a href="mailto:Ajoseph2@holysfamily.edu">Ajoseph2@holysfamily.edu</a>	M	Y	CACC	N
Allison Kern	AD	California State University, East Bay	<a href="mailto:allison.kern@csueastbay.edu">allison.kern@csueastbay.edu</a>	F	N	CCAA	N







### Management Council Chair Duties

Listed below are the duties and responsibilities of the Division II Management Council chair:

1. Preside at Management Council meetings;
2. Serve as ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board of Governors;
3. Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee;
4. Report to the Division II membership at the annual Convention the activities of the Management Council and Division II committees;
5. Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of any Division II committee that reports to the Division II Management Council; and
6. Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.

Carrie Michaels' term as chair of the Management Council will end at the conclusion of the Division II business session at the 2024 NCAA Convention.

Roberta Page and Christina Whetsel have indicated their interest in serving as chair of the Council.

The elected chair will serve for a one-year period of time.



Division II Management Council  
Chair Election

☐

Roberta Page

☐

Christina Whetsel

☐

\_\_\_\_\_



Division II Management Council  
Vice-Chair Election

Jerry Wollmering's term as vice chair of the Management Council will end at the conclusion of the Division II business session at the 2024 NCAA Convention.

The duties of the Management Council vice chair are listed below:

1. Take the chair's place and perform the chair's duties if the chair is absent or incapacitated;
2. Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee (*monthly videoconferences*);
3. Serve as a member of the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee (*two to four videoconferences*); and
4. Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Championships Committee and all Division II sports committees (*two in-person meetings and monthly videoconferences*).

Note that the vice chair of the Council shall serve a term of office not to exceed two years and will not be eligible for immediate re-election to that position. In addition, a member must serve a minimum of one year on the Council before serving as vice chair.

Ben Cherry, Erin Lind, Sandee Mott and Christina Whetsel have been nominated to serve as vice chair of the Council.



Division II Management Council  
Vice Chair Election Ballot

☐

**Ben Cherry**

☐

**Erin Lind**

☐

**Sandee Mott**

☐

**Christina Whetsel**

☐

\_\_\_\_\_

NCAA Division II Management Council  
Committee and Project Team Assignments for 2023

*(Mentor assignments are listed in italics below new Management Council members' names)*

Management Council Representative ( <i>Mentor</i> )	Committees/Project Teams
Femi Alao ( <i>Christina Whetsel</i> )	NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee
Patrick Britz ( <i>Erin Lind</i> )	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Nominating Committee
<b>Brenda Cates</b>	<b>Division II Legislation Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Liaison to the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA)</b>
Bennett Cherry ( <i>Danny McCabe</i> )	Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Marcus Clarke	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee (chair)
<b>Mark Corino</b>	<b>Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee</b> <b>Division II Planning and Finance Committee</b>
Jeremy Elliott ( <i>Bo Pagliasotti</i> )	Division II Management Council Subcommittee NCAA Walter Byers Scholarship Committee
Theresa Grosbach ( <i>Kristi Kiefer</i> )	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Kim Hancock ( <i>Theresa Hanson</i> )	NCAA Honors Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team
David Hansburg	NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee Division II Committee on Infractions
Amy Henkelman	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Committee for Legislative Relief Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
<b>Kristi Kiefer</b>	<b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> <b>Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement</b>
Erin Lind	NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Liaison to the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) Division II Planning and Finance Committee
Emma Kramer	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Katherine Loh ( <i>Brenda Cates</i> )	NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Danny McCabe	Division II Academic Requirements Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team (chair) Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Cindy McKnight ( <i>Sandee Mott</i> )	Division II Degree-Completion Awards Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Membership Committee

Management Council Representative ( <i>Mentor</i> )	Committees/Project Teams
Carrie Michaels, <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> ) Division II Planning and Finance Committee ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Austin Mondello	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Sandee Mott	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
Roberta Page (Carrie Michaels)	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> ) Division II Nominating Committee
Bo Pagliasotti	NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee
Sarah Ramey (Amy Henkelman)	Management Council Liaison to Women Leaders in College Sports NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports
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 (Mark Corino)	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Liaison to the Minority Opportunities Athletics Association (MOAA) Division II Legislation Committee
Jerry Wollmering, <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 Planning and Finance Committee Division II Management Council Liaison to College Sports Communicators

Management Council Subcommittee chairs:

- Appeals of Membership Committee decisions on provisional membership status: Roberta Page
- 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: Marcus Clarke
- Appeals of Championships Committee decisions: TBD

Available:

- Division II Infractions Appeals Committee
- Division II Academic Requirements Committee
- Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
- Division II Management Council Subcommittee (*chair*)
- Division II Management Council Liaison to Division II Athletics Directors Association (ADA)



DIVISION II

**MAKE IT *YOURS***®

# NCAA Division II Management Council Policies and Procedures

*Last Updated: ~~April-October~~ 2023*  
(Effective: Feb. 1, 2024)

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## NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The NCAA Division II Management Council Policies and Procedures outline the operations and authority of the NCAA Division II Management Council. The Management Council shall have the authority to adopt or revise the policies and procedures specified herein as needed. The NCAA Division II ~~Presidents Council~~Executive Board, at its discretion, may review, amend and/or act on any policy or procedure adopted by the Management Council.

### *NCAA Structure*

The NCAA Board of Governors establishes and directs the general policy of the Association; provides final approval and oversight of the Association's budget; internal and external audits; enterprise risk management; strategic planning; allocation of assets; establishes policies related to fiduciary responsibility; and employs the NCAA president (see NCAA Constitution, Article 2.A.3.d for full list of duties and responsibilities).

Each Division shall have independent authority to organize itself, consistent with the principles of the Association (see Constitution, Article 2.B.1).

The Division II ~~Presidents Council~~Executive Board establishes and directs the general policy of Division II (see NCAA Bylaw 8.1).

The Division II Management Council handles the day-to-day responsibilities and operations of Division II (see Bylaw 8.2).

The Division II Administrative Committee is empowered in the interim between meetings of the Division II Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ and Management Council to conduct business necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of Division II (see Bylaw 8.3).

### *Division II Management Council Structure*

The Management Council is a governance group whose composition is based on conference representation. Currently, there are ~~29~~8 representatives on the Management Council (~~one member from each of the Division II multisport voting conferences; four "at-large" members to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation; and two student-athletes serving on and chosen by the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (one representing male sports and one representing female sports.)~~ The members shall be representatives of Division II active member institutions ~~or confernces~~. The members of the Council shall include:~~23 Division II voting conference representatives, two at-large representatives, one representative for Division II independent institutions [provided there are at least eight Division II independent institutions] and two members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee).~~

- (a) At least five directors of athletics;
- (b) At least five senior woman administrators;

- (c) At least five faculty athletics representatives; and
- (d) At least two conference office staff.

Once the minimums are met, the Council 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. Individuals shall not be full-time coaches.

~~The only positions to be represented on the Management Council are director of athletics, senior woman administrator, faculty athletics representative, conference administrator and student-athlete.~~

~~Among the Management Council members, there must be at least four directors of athletics, at least four senior woman administrators, at least four faculty athletics representatives and at least one conference administrator.~~

The two members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall serve as voting members on the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2.1.3). The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee policies and procedures will determine eligibility, selection process, terms, duties and any other policies related to the service of Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representatives on the Management Council.

The Management Council is committed to the principle of diversity within governance structures that promotes gender and ethnic minority representation at all levels of the Division II governance structure.

### Term of Office

Management Council members serve terms of four years, which shall conclude following the annual NCAA Convention. The Division II Administrative Committee shall have the authority to amend terms of service of Management Council members, as necessary, to stagger the expiration of terms to provide for continuity of service.

Management Council members are not eligible for election to another term on the Management Council until three years have elapsed. A member may not serve on the Management Council more than two terms.

Individuals serving on the Management Council shall be salaried on a regular basis by a Division II active member institution or conference and perform a regular staff function representing at least 50 percent of the normal workload for a staff member at that institution or conference, unless otherwise specified.

If an individual's employment is altered to the extent that they are no longer serving in the position for which that person was appointed to the Management Council (e.g., individual appointed to Management Council as director of athletics resigns as director of athletics of institution but continues as senior woman administrator), that person may be replaced immediately and they may not attend the next scheduled meeting of the Management Council. The Administrative Committee may grant a waiver (on a case-by-case basis) to provide for a Management Council representative

to remain in their position on the Management Council in certain situations where a Management Council representative's position is altered, but there are compelling reasons as to why the change should take place and allow them to remain on the Management Council.

A Management Council member on sabbatical or other temporary leave for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months may continue their service on the Council. A Management Council member on terminal leave or on leave in excess of 12 consecutive months shall not be eligible to serve on the Management Council.

At the time a Management Council member's institution has forwarded to the national office written notice of its intention to change its membership classification to Division I, Division III or another association, that individual shall be ineligible to serve on the Management Council and an election will occur to replace that member on the Council.

### **Management Council Vacancies**

When a vacancy on the Division II Management Council occurs, each conference shall propose a slate of nominees that includes at minimum a director of athletics, a senior woman administrator (or, if the senior woman administrator is also the institution's director of athletics, a female professional athletics administrator who is a member of the institution's senior athletics management team) and a faculty athletics representative. A single individual may not be nominated more than once on the slate (e.g., the slate shall not contain the same nominee for the athletics director and senior woman administrator positions).

The slate also may include ~~a conference administrator. A single individual may not be nominated more than once on the slate (e.g., the slate shall not contain the same nominee for the athletics director and senior woman administrator positions).~~

Finally, the slate may include other individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics, including but not limited to vice president, athletic trainer, assistant/associate/deputy director of athletics. However, these nominees may not be a full-time coach. If the conference elects to add one or two individuals beyond the positions of director of athletics, senior woman administrator, faculty athletics representative and conference administrator, the slate must include at least two women and one person of color.

Conferences are required to develop a selection process that is supported by their member institutions and an explanation of this process must be kept on file at the conference office and submitted with its slate of nominees. In addition, a statement will be included on the "slate of candidates" form that reiterates the division's commitment to the principle of diversity at all levels of the governance structure.

The members of the Management Council shall select individuals to fill vacancies from the slate(s) of nominees. Individuals selected by the Management Council to fill a vacancy must be ratified by the Division II ~~Executive Board~~Presidents Council.

When filling vacancies on the Management Council, every effort should be made to not drop below the gender and ethnicity breakdown of the Management Council as it existed before the vacancy

occurred. Further, to the extent possible, members of the ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ and the Management Council shall not be employed at the same institution.

The Management Council may reject a slate of candidates when any of the following circumstances exist:

- (1) When the slate of candidates is incomplete (e.g., the slate does not include a senior woman administrator <or designee> or the senior woman administrator on the slate has expressed an unwillingness to serve).
- (2) When the conference does not utilize its selection procedures (i.e., the procedures on file at the conference office and submitted with its slate) to select a slate of candidates.
- (3) When the conference's slate does not permit the Management Council to fulfill its obligation to assist the division's commitment to the principle of diversity.

At-large vacancies on the Management Council are to be filled by candidates who enhance ethnic and/or gender diversity. A nominee to fill an at-large vacancy should not be considered if the nominee's institution already is represented on the Management Council. Likewise, a nominee to fill a conference vacancy should not be considered if the nominee's institution already is represented by an at-large member.

~~The independent institution vacancy will be open to selected representatives (directors of athletics, senior woman administrators, faculty athletics representatives) from any Division II independent institution and nominations will be accepted from all Division II institutions. If the total number of independent institutions falls below eight, the position allocated for independent institutions shall become an at-large position as soon as the position becomes vacant. In such situations, the Management Council shall try to fill one of the at-large vacancies with a representative from an independent institution, if such a representative applies for service.~~

### **Process of Submitting Nominations**

When a Management Council vacancy exists for a member conference, the conference will be sent a copy of the Management Council policies and procedures to share with interested candidates who have questions regarding the Management Council's duties and responsibilities. In addition, when submitting a slate of candidates to fill a Management Council vacancy, a conference must certify each nominee's willingness to serve as a Management Council representative.

Each conference must designate a president or chancellor from a member institution within the conference who shall sign the conference's nomination form (slate of candidates or reelection form) before the form is submitted. A conference is not required to be on record with the NCAA national office as to which president or chancellor in the conference has authority to sign off on a slate of candidates. A president or chancellor that a conference authorizes to sign off on a slate of candidates may designate someone else from the conference to perform this task as long as that person is a president or chancellor at another member institution within that conference.

A nomination to the Management Council may not be retracted without the nominee's permission. A conference may, however, modify its slate of candidates when extenuating circumstances exist (e.g., an individual changes his or her job after the slate of candidates has been submitted).

### **Voting Procedures to Fill Vacancies**

- ◆ If more than one vacancy exists, a Management Council Subcommittee will be established by the Management Council chair and vice-chair before each election. The duties of the subcommittee include monitoring the composition of the Management Council to ensure its continued diversity, tracking the history of conference representatives by position on the Management Council, reviewing the pool of Management Council candidates prior to each election and providing the Management Council with a possible election outcome(s) after considering the gender, ethnic minority and position breakdown of the Management Council at the time of the election. In elections involving nominations for the at-large position(s), the subcommittee may also conduct phone interviews with certain nominees to better evaluate credentials and a willingness to serve.
- ◆ If more than one vacancy exists, the conference, ~~independent~~ and at-large vacancies will be voted on as a group (as opposed to individually) by written ballot and the ballot will consist of the slate of candidates from each conference with a vacancy (and/or the list of ~~independent and~~ at-large nominees).
- ◆ The slate of candidates signed by each conference, as well as the nominee information forms completed by each conference ~~and~~, at-large ~~and independent~~ nominees, will be provided to the members of the Management Council for consideration.
- ◆ At the meeting, Management Council members who wish to speak on behalf of a particular candidate will be permitted to make a brief statement about the nominee; a Management Council member from a conference with a vacancy should provide a brief overview of each candidate's qualifications, without stating a preference for a particular candidate. Management Council members from conferences with vacancies will be permitted to cast a vote for their replacements.
- ◆ Management Council members will be asked to vote for one nominee per conference (and one at-large nominee ~~and one independent nominee~~, when necessary). The ballots will be tabulated by the Division II governance staff. If one candidate receives a majority vote of the Management Council members present and voting, the voting is considered final for that day.
- ◆ If no candidate from a conference (or at-large, ~~independent~~ nominees) receives a majority vote, the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be eliminated from the slate of candidates, and another vote (in writing) will be taken. The voting will continue in this manner until one nominee receives a majority vote of those Management Council members present and voting.
- ◆ After the voting takes place on the first day of the Management Council meeting, the staff will compile the results and prepare a grid showing the composition of the Management Council (as determined by the first day's vote) by gender, ethnicity and position.

- ◆ The Management Council will review the grid on the second day of the meeting and determine whether it is comfortable with the overall composition of the group and whether a revote is necessary.
- ◆ The names of the nominees from each conference and the at-large ~~and independent~~ candidates who have been elected shall be forwarded to the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ for ratification. Notification to the candidates, the conference and the Management Council shall occur after the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ has made its decision.
- ◆ If a conference representative is not ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~, the conference will be asked to submit a new slate of candidates for the Management Council to consider.
- ◆ If an at-large representative ~~or independent representative~~ is not ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~, a call for nominations will be sent to the membership (unless a sufficient number of candidates exist from a vacancy that has occurred within the previous three months).

### **Ratification.**

Election and reelection decisions made by the Management Council shall be forwarded to the Division II Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ for ratification.

### **Emergency Election Procedure.**

If an interim vacancy occurs on the Management Council, the Division II Administrative Committee will determine whether the vacancy has occurred at such a time that the vacancy must be filled prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Council. If the Administrative Committee determines that the vacancy does require an election prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Council, the election may occur either by ballot or telephone conference of the Management Council.

### ***Chair and Vice-Chair***

The chair and vice-chair are elected by the Management Council and ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~, for a maximum two-year term. The individual seeking a second year of the maximum two-year term must be reelected by the Management Council at a quarterly meeting prior to the expiration of the first term.

The term of office of the chair and vice chair runs from January to January (term ends upon adjournment of the NCAA Business Session at the annual Convention).

The vice chair is a separately elected position and does not ascend to the chair role automatically.

Representatives from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee on the Management Council shall not be eligible to serve as chair or vice-chair of the Management Council.

## Duties

The chair of the Management Council shall: (8.2.2.1)

- ◆ Preside at Management Council meetings;
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board of Governors;
- ◆ Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee;
- ◆ Report to the Division II membership at the annual Convention the activities of the Management Council and Division II committees;
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of any Division II committee that reports to the Division II Management Council; and
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Planning and Finance Committee.

[Note: The Management Council chair also represents Division II on the NCAA President's Advisory Group for Marketing and Promotional Issues. (See Bylaw 31.16.4.2.)]

The vice-chair of the Management Council shall: (8.2.2.2)

- ◆ Take the chair's place and perform the chair's duties if the chair is absent or incapacitated;
- ◆ Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee;
- ◆ Serve as a member of the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee;
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Championships Committee and all Division II sports committees.

## Election Process

The Management Council will conduct the chair and vice-chair elections using a written ballot. Each candidate will be limited to a two-minute speech, and there will be no discussion by the Management Council of the various candidates. [Note: The chair and vice-chair candidates will be permitted to vote.]

In order to be elected as chair or vice-chair, the individual must receive a majority vote of all Management Council members present and voting.

In the case there are more than two candidates running and none receive a majority vote, the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be eliminated from the ballot, and another vote will be taken. The voting will continue in this manner until one candidate receives a majority vote of those Management Council members present and voting.

If there is a tie vote, the vote shall be retaken. Each candidate may be allowed another two-minute speech, and there will be no discussion by the Management Council of the two candidates. If the tie persists after the second vote, the names of the two candidates are to be written on paper and pulled from a container by the chair of the Management Council. If the chair of the Management Council is a candidate, the vice-chair will pull the paper from the container. If the chair and vice-chair of Management Council are the two candidates tied, the vice president of Division II will pull the paper from the container.



The vote results will be announced during the Management Council meeting, with the understanding that such results are confidential until the election has been ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~.

### **Special Circumstances.**

- ◆ In the event that the chair of the Management Council leaves the position of chair prior to expiration of their term as chair, there will be an election to fill the vacancy. The vice-chair of the Management Council will assume the duties of the chair on an interim basis (and also will continue to serve as vice-chair) until the chair vacancy has been filled. [Note: The election to fill the vacancy may be immediate and occur either by ballot or ~~telephone~~-videoconference of the Management Council if the Administrative Committee agrees to expedite the process. Otherwise, the election would occur at the next regularly scheduled Management Council meeting.]
- ◆ In the event that the vice-chair of the Management Council leaves the position of vice-chair prior to expiration of their term as vice-chair, there will be an election to fill the vacancy. [Note: The election to fill the vacancy may be immediate and occur either by ballot or videoconference ~~telephone conference~~ of the Management Council if the Administrative committee agrees to expedite the process. Otherwise, the election would occur at the next regularly scheduled Management Council meeting.]
- ◆ In the event both the Management Council chair and vice chair are absent or unable to lead a Management Council meeting or videoconference~~teleconference~~, another member of the Management Council may be selected to lead the meeting or videoconference ~~teleconference~~ by a majority vote of all members of the Council present at the meeting or on the teleconference. If time permits and the absence of the chair and vice chair, or their inability to lead the meeting or videoconference~~teleconference~~, is known in advance, the election of another member may take place via e-mail vote.

### ***Role and Purpose/Responsibilities***

The Division II Management Council is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Division II.

Bylaw 8.2.2 specifies the following responsibilities for the Management Council:

- ◆ Implement policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors and the Executive Board;
- ◆ Make recommendations to the Executive Board on matters it deems appropriate;
- ◆ Adopt noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II;
- ◆ Sponsor legislative proposals for a vote at the annual NCAA Convention;
- ◆ Take final action on matters delegated to it by the Executive Board;
- ◆ Review and act on the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of committees with Association-wide functions;
- ◆ Appoint the members of the Division II committee structure and appoint the Division II representatives to committees with Association-wide functions;

- ◆ Identify, before the printing of the Official Notice for any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur;
- ◆ Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;
- ◆ Elect a chair and vice chair;
- ◆ Organize and participate in an annual "summit" with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;
- ◆ Hear and act on appeals by member institutions of decisions made by a Division II committee or the NCAA staff regarding the application of NCAA legislation (excluding actions of any committee that has final authority over issues subject to appeal); and
- ◆ Recommend the creation of committees or other bodies to study and suggest courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of Division II bylaws, subject to approval by the Executive Board.
- ◆ ~~Implement policies adopted by the Association's Board of Governors and the Division II Presidents Council;~~
- ◆ ~~Make recommendations to the Division II Presidents Council on matters it deems appropriate;~~
- ◆ ~~Recommend the adoption of noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II, subject to ratification by the Division II Presidents Council;~~
- ◆ ~~Take final action on matters delegated to it by the Division II Presidents Council;~~
- ◆ ~~Make interpretations of the bylaws of Division II;~~
- ◆ ~~Review and act upon the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of Division II representatives to committees with Association-wide functions;~~
- ◆ ~~Appoint the members of the Division II committee structure and appoint the Division II representatives to committees with Association-wide functions;~~
- ◆ ~~Elect a chair and vice chair;~~
- ◆ ~~Organize and participate in an annual "summit" with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;~~
- ◆ ~~Hear and act on appeals by member institutions of decisions made by a Division II committee or the NCAA staff regarding the application of NCAA legislation (excluding actions of any committee that has final authority over issues subject to appeal); and~~
- ◆ ~~Recommend the appointment of such committees or subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of the Constitution or the Division II bylaws, subject to ratification by the Presidents Council.~~

### *Management Council Operating Policies*

The following operating policies are not included in the NCAA Manual. They have been grouped under the following headings for convenience of reference.

#### **Management Council/ ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ Relationship**

The Management Council is committed to working closely with the ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ to enhance the efficiency and administration of the Division II governance structure.

The actions of the Management Council are subject to review and final approval by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~. The Board of Governors has final authority over all Association-wide matters (e.g., the Association-wide budget).

The Management Council and Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ each receive the minutes of the other's meetings, and the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ receives a report at each meeting on the activities of the Management Council. Both groups have authorized their respective chairs and vice-chairs to communicate with each other between meetings.

Management Council officers will attempt to attend Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ meetings and Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ officers will attempt to attend Management Council meetings as often as possible. Further, the chair of the Management Council shall attend the quarterly Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ meeting to share the activities and actions of the Management Council.

The Management Council and Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ will attempt to conduct one joint meeting per year to further the communication efforts between the two governing bodies.

### **Appeals, Appearances and Hearings**

The Management Council has authority to review appeals of committee decisions in only limited situations. (See Bylaw 8.2.2.) In most cases, the Management Council Subcommittee has been authorized to hear appeals of committee decisions. Bylaw 8.2.2.3 notes the authority of the Management Council Subcommittee to hear and act on specific waiver requests. The Management Council Subcommittee shall be comprised of nine members of the Management Council.

The presence of new relevant and significant information directly related to the original findings shall be required to be heard by the original committee inasmuch as the new information may alter the original committee's decision.

Requests by member institutions or others to appear in person before the Management Council to discuss proposed legislation will be denied, inasmuch as it would be logistically impossible for the Management Council to entertain all such requests for appearances on legislative matters.

In all appeals or appearances that are granted, not more than three persons shall represent the appellant. Such appearances will be granted only when extraordinary circumstances exist and such appearances that occur in person shall be at the appellant's expense. The Division II Administrative Committee must approve such requests for personal appearances before the Management Council (or ~~a~~ the Management Council Subcommittee).

However, no appeal by institutions of Membership Committee decisions involving applications for Division II membership or status of institutions in the membership process shall be heard in person. In such cases, the appealing institution may request that its appeal be heard via ~~teleconference~~ videoconference and the Management Council Subcommittee shall grant the request without having to seek Administrative Committee approval. If the appealing institution does not request the appeal to be heard via ~~teleconference~~ videoconference with the submission of the appeal, the appeal shall be handled on the basis of the written record. The Management Council has adopted procedures to apply only to appeals by institutions of decisions by the Membership Committee

involving applications for Division II membership and the status of institutions in the membership process. These separate procedures are attached to this policies and procedures document.

In cases involving a conference's status in the Division II membership process, the appellant is granted the personal appearance, if requested, without having to seek Administrative Committee approval.

For all appearances before the Management Council (or the Management Council Subcommittee), a 15-minute limit on presentation(s) shall apply, unless the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers (chair and vice-chair) specify a lesser amount of time.

For purposes of parliamentary procedure, the Management Council (or the Management Council Subcommittee) shall constitute a "board," rather than a "committee," in applying the provisions of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised; therefore, parliamentary procedures shall be those specified for boards by Robert's Rules in such matters as appeals, hearings or other appearances before the Management Council. [Note: This affects such matters as motions to reconsider, amend or rescind earlier actions.]

The Management Council has adopted the following procedures to apply to appeals of any committee action other than those by the Membership Committee involving applications for Division II membership and the status of institutions in the membership process, Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement and the Division II Committee for Legislative Relief (or any other committee with authorized final jurisdiction over a matter):

1. In order to appeal a decision of a Division II committee, the involved institution must submit a written notice of appeal, to be received in the national office not later than 30 calendar days after it has received notification of the committee's decision. The appeal shall be submitted by the institution's chancellor/president, faculty athletics representative, director of athletics or senior woman administrator and shall specify the reasons the institution believes the committee's decision is erroneous.
2. In each appealed case, the involved Division II committee shall provide the Management Council with a written report setting forth the basis for its decision. The report shall identify the involved NCAA rules and interpretations and shall specify the information and precedent relied upon by the committee in reaching its decision. The report of the involved committee shall be submitted to the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee (and the appealing institution) at least seven days prior to the Council's or subcommittee's review of the matter, unless the appealing institution and the Administrative Committee or the Management Council officers approve a shorter period of time.
3. Each request for an appeal that is reviewed by the full Management Council may be reviewed by the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers (chair and vice-chair) and shall be placed on the appropriate agenda. The Administrative Committee or Management Council officers shall determine whether the appeal is to be handled on the basis of the written record or whether a personal appearance is necessary. If a personal appearance is thought necessary, both the institution and the appropriate committee shall be represented.

4. Reviews of appeals by the full Management Council shall take place only in conjunction with regularly scheduled meetings of the Management Council.
5. When an institution is approved for a personal appearance, it shall be represented by its chancellor/president, faculty athletics representative, director of athletics, senior woman administrator or conference office representative, and it may be represented by other involved institutional staff members, student-athletes and/or legal counsel, as approved by the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers. Only three representatives shall be permitted to speak within the institution's 15-minute time period. A representative of the appropriate committee, as well as an appropriate member of the national office staff (usually the liaison to the committee), also will participate in the hearing.
6. Once all parties participating in an in-person appeal have been introduced, the chair shall call on the institutional representatives, and they shall be provided an opportunity to describe the situation and explain the reasons they believe the committee's decision is erroneous. Next, the representative of the involved committee and/or the national office staff will describe the current status of the matter, including the committee's decision. Neither the committee's nor the institution's presentation may exceed 15 minutes in length, unless the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers (chair and vice-chair) approve in advance a longer time period. All participants in the hearing will be permitted to ask questions of any other participants. Once an in-person hearing has concluded, representatives of the member institution involved, representatives of the involved committee and the national office staff member involved in the case shall leave the hearing.
7. When reviewing appeals of committee or subcommittee decisions, Management Council members who participated in the original committee or subcommittee decision shall not vote. Additionally, any Management Council member who has a conflict of interest (see conflict of interest statement in this policies and procedures document) shall be recused from the proceedings and the vote. Action will be taken by the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee by a majority vote. All votes may be conducted by a show of hands or by voice vote.
8. Upon conclusion of an in-person hearing or a review of the written record, the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee shall reach a decision and notify the national office staff of its conclusion. The national office staff shall notify the involved institution and shall provide a written confirmation of the decision. The notification should occur as soon as practical after the decision is reached and after adjournment of the meeting. No notification, formal or informal, should occur before adjournment of the Management Council meetings. The appellant also should be notified of any additional procedures available to it. No public announcement shall be made until the Management Council meeting has adjourned.
9. If, in reviewing the appeal, the Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee concludes that new information that was not made available to the involved committee at the time of its initial decision has been reported and that the information is of such importance, in the judgment of the Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee, to make a different result reasonably probable, the case shall be redirected to the committee that initially considered it for further review.

10. The Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee shall not alter the decision of the committee that initially decided the matter, unless it concludes that the committee erred in its decision in a manner that, in the judgment of the Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee, affected the decision of that committee. The finding of such an error shall be based upon a determination (1) that the committee improperly applied NCAA legislation or official interpretations, (2) that the committee took an action inconsistent with established precedent, (3) that the committee deviated from its approved procedures; or (4) that the decision of the committee is clearly erroneous.

Request for a waiver of NCAA legislation shall only be presented to the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee when there is specific authority in NCAA legislation to grant a waiver of the involved rule by the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee. Any other waiver requests in which no other committee, subcommittee or conference has the authority to act, will be reviewed by the Committee for Legislative Relief in accordance with Bylaw 21.8.5.4.2.

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### *Committees and Subcommittees Issues*

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#### Committees

All Division II committees with fewer than seven members that report directly to the Management Council shall include at least one Management Council member, and Division II committees with more than six members that report directly to the Management Council shall include at least two Management Council members.

In addition, at least one of the Division II representatives on committees functioning in an Association-wide capacity shall be a member of the Management Council.

Unless otherwise specified, Management Council members shall serve as voting members of Division II general committees and Association-wide committees.

A Management Council member's term of service on a general committee or Association-wide committee shall commence in January after adjournment of the annual Convention and shall be concurrent with their term of service on the Management Council.

A Management Council member must terminate service on such a general committee or an Association-wide committee at the expiration of their term on the Management Council.

If a member of an Association-wide or Division II general or sports committee is appointed to the Management Council, that individual must terminate service from such committee(s) unless they are asked to continue on the committee as the Management Council representative.

Management Council members who serve as the Management Council representatives to committees are responsible for presenting committee reports to the Management Council and are expected to be prepared to answer questions and give background information regarding any

recommendations. [Note: The staff liaison to the committee is expected to provide all the necessary materials to the Management Council representative.]

The Management Council will receive copies of reports of the meetings of all Division II committees, even in instances in which it already has acted upon any recommendations therein.

The Management Council shall review, on an annual basis, the composition of all Association-wide and Division II committees on which Management Council members serve.

The Administrative Committee shall make appointments to fill vacancies on Association-wide or Division II committees only if there is an immediate need to make such an appointment.

The Championships Committee must seek approval of its actions by the Management Council when decisions have an economic impact on the Division II budget or involve a major change in an established Division II policy.

### **Committee Vacancies**

When the Management Council receives recommendations for vacancies on Association-wide or Division II committees, the Management Council will use a ballot to determine the candidate who will fill each vacant position. The Management Council will take into consideration the Nominating Committee's top choice(s), but will also consider other factors that it deems appropriate regarding each vacancy.

The Division II ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~, Management Council and Nominating Committee shall not consider candidates for appointment to Division II committees and Councils once the institution's official paperwork to begin the reclassification process to another division or another association has been received in the NCAA national office. The policy is applicable for appointments to Division II general committees, Division II appointments to Association-wide committees and Division II appointments to the Management Council and ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~.

### **Removal from a Committee**

An institution or conference requesting removal of an individual serving on a committee or Council through appointment or through conference representation may do so provided the following information is provided.

#### **Individual through Appointment:**

The chancellor or president of the institution shall submit in writing a request for removal of said individual from committee or Council service.

#### **Individual through Conference Representation:**

The chair of the conference's presidential body shall submit in writing, on behalf of the conference, a request for removal of said individual from committee or Council service. The conference shall

be required to submit a slate of candidates to fill the open conference position within 20 working days of the date of the letter requesting the removal.

Further, the chair of a committee is authorized to recommend to the Management Council that a member be replaced if such member is not discharging the member's duties properly. In addition, a member who is absent from two consecutive meetings with reasons approved by the Management Council shall be removed from the committee.

When a removal from the Council occurs, the Management Council will follow its normal process for filling a vacancy.

### **Defense and Indemnification Policy**

The Association shall defend and indemnify any present or former employee, committee member or agent of the Association who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to, or who is to be subpoenaed to be deposed or to give evidence in, any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action or proceeding, including those brought by the Association, provided the conditions enumerated below are met. For purposes of this policy, "committee" shall include all Association committees, boards, cabinets, councils, subcommittees and panels.

Conditions for Defense and Indemnification:

1. The person requesting defense and indemnification is being named as a party or subpoenaed to be deposed or to give evidence by reason of the fact that the person was or is an employee, committee member or agent of the Association or is or was serving at the request of the Association as a director, officer, employee or agent of another association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise.
2. The person is determined to have been acting within the scope of the person's duties to the Association.
3. The person is determined to have been acting in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Association in the performance of the person's duties to the Association. In respect to any alleged criminal action or proceeding, the person must also be determined to have had no reasonable cause to believe the alleged conduct was unlawful.

Note: The termination of any action or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption in regard to these determinations. However, if a person is adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of the person's duty to the Association, there shall be no indemnification unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses as the court shall deem proper.



4. The person promptly and timely notifies the Association's general counsel of the actual or threatened service of process, subpoena, notice of deposition or other legal process before incurring attorney fees or other expenses.
5. The person accepts counsel provided or approved by the Association and agrees to accede to the legal strategies approved by the Association's general counsel, including any settlement determinations. In the event that the person wishes to hire other counsel or not accede to the Association's legal strategies, the Association shall not be obligated to defend or indemnify the person, except when it is determined that a conflict of interest exists with the Association such that retaining separate counsel is warranted.
6. The person agrees to repay any expenses, including attorney fees, incurred in bringing or defending a civil or criminal action or proceeding paid by the Association in advance of the final disposition of such action or proceeding if it is ultimately determined that the person is not entitled to be indemnified by the Association as authorized in this policy.

For purposes of this policy, "indemnification" shall consist of payment against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action or proceeding.

Determinations as to whether indemnification is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standards of conduct set forth in this policy shall be made:

- a. By the NCAA Board of Governors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of members who are not parties to such action or proceeding, or
- b. If such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable if a quorum of disinterested Board of Governors members so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or
- c. by the Association's president if so delegated by the Board of Governors.

The indemnification provided by this policy is not exclusive of any other rights to which those indemnified may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of members or disinterested Board of Governors members or otherwise, both as to action in the person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be an employee, committee member or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

The Association may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was an employee, committee member or agent of the Association, or is or was serving at the request of the Association as a director, officer, employee or agent of another association, corporation, partnership joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against the person and incurred by the person in any such capacity or arising out of the person's status as such, whether or not the Association would have the power to indemnify the person against such liability under the provisions of this policy.

*Effect of Change in Indemnification Law.* If any change in any applicable law, statute, or rule expands the power of the Association to indemnify a person, the change shall be within the purview of the

person's rights and the Association's obligations under this policy. If any change in any applicable law, statute, or rule narrows the right of the Association to indemnify a person, the change shall have no effect on this policy or the parties' rights and obligations under this policy, except to the extent otherwise required by law, statute, or rule to be applied to this policy.

### **Subcommittees**

In order to carry out the functions of the Management Council, it may be necessary to appoint Management Council subcommittees. Service on a subcommittee will be considered in light of the Management Council members' responsibilities and service on other committee.

### **Project Teams**

In order to address specific Division II issues or handle a specific project, the Management Council has authority to establish a project team. The composition of the project team may include individuals who are not on the Management Council or ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~. The work of a project team shall be limited in scope and duration. The chair of the Management Council has responsibility regarding project team appointments and replacements. The chair will work with NCAA staff to determine when the work of a project team has been completed.

## ***Interpretations of Constitution and Bylaws***

In the event an institution seeks to change an interpretation of proposed legislation acted upon by the Management Council during its pre-Convention meeting, the chair of the business session may direct the Management Council to take under advisement the Convention discussion in the Management Council's post-Convention review of legislative actions. If the Management Council becomes aware of such concerns in advance of meeting during the Convention, the interpretation in question may be reviewed at that time.

## ***Management Council Meetings***

### **Expense Policies.**

The NCAA travel policies are given to each new member of the Management Council. The Association's policies regarding meeting expenses are set forth in Bylaw 31.7.2 in the NCAA Manual. In short, the NCAA pays for transportation to and from Management Council meetings, hotel room and tax charges at the meetings, and a \$75 per diem for each day or part thereof involved in traveling to and from and attendance at the meeting. All members are expected to use Short's Travel, the Association's travel agency, for their transportation arrangements to Management Council meetings.

Transportation and the hotel room and tax are billed directly to the NCAA; the member needs only to pay incidental charges to their room when leaving the meeting site. Following the meeting, each member will receive a form on which to claim per diem and any other expenses permitted under NCAA policies. The member will receive reimbursement for those expenses from the NCAA national office within a reasonable time after each meeting. Also, early in each calendar year, each member will receive a Form 1099 reporting the amounts thus paid during the preceding year, if

that amount exceeds \$600. In such instances, the member then will declare that amount in filing his or her income tax return for that year. Some Management Council members prefer to have their expense reimbursement paid directly to their institutions to eliminate the need for such personal record keeping.

### **Meeting Location and Format.**

The Management Council must meet in locations that are in accordance with the Association's meeting policies and, at minimum, all meetings must be held in the contiguous 48 states.

Generally, Management Council meetings will be scheduled for two days. In the usual Management Council in-person meeting format (except for the Convention meeting), the Management Council meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. on the first day. At the Convention, the current Management Council meets prior to the Division II Business Session and the new Management Council meets via ~~teleconference~~videoconference after the Convention. The post-Convention ~~teleconference~~videoconference shall be limited to essential items of business. In all cases, a continental breakfast is provided each morning and a luncheon each full day of Management Council sessions.

For the Convention meetings, the Management Council members will have expenses covered according to the policies mentioned above beginning with the pre-Convention Management Council meeting through the end of the Division II Business Session.

The Management Council and ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ will attempt to conduct one joint meeting per year to further the communication efforts between the two governing bodies.

Meetings of other NCAA committees should not be scheduled at the same time as (i.e., in conflict with) meetings of the Management Council.

### **Procedures.**

The Management Council procedures are intended to achieve three goals:

- ◆ Assure emphasis on major policy issues in Management Council meetings.
- ◆ Promote thorough discussion of significant issues while curtailing discussions that become unproductive or unnecessary.
- ◆ Enhance efficiency and communication in the ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ Management Council relationship.

The following procedures will apply to all Management Council meetings:

### **Missed Meetings.**

If a Management Council member must miss a Management Council meeting, it is that individual's responsibility to inform their conference (if the individual is representing a conference), the chair of the Management Council and the vice-president for Division II. In the event that a Management Council member misses two or more Management Council meetings, formal notification of each

absence will be sent by the vice-president for Division II to the president of the conference and the conference commissioner.

If a conference's Management Council representative is unable to attend a Management Council meeting, the conference will only be invited to send an observer to the meeting when the Administrative Committee (or its designee) decides that unique and extenuating circumstances justify such an invitation.

### **Agenda.**

Management Council meetings are considered closed business meetings and are not open to the membership or the public at-large. The Administrative Committee has authority to approve requests for special guests or observers to attend Management Council meetings.

Management Council members will be asked to bring with them to meetings such basic reference materials as the NCAA Manual.

Institutions must submit agenda items for consideration by the Management Council through their Management Council representative. To place such items on the agenda, the Management Council representative must forward a written request to the vice-president for Division II at least ten business days prior to the Management Council meeting.

All supplements to the agendas are sent to all Management Council members in advance of the meeting, except in a rare circumstance where that is not possible to achieve. The Management Council receives by electronic communication, approximately two weeks ahead of the meeting, the agenda and all available supplements. All Management Council members will then have the opportunity to peruse all materials prior to arrival at the meeting site.

During each meeting, the Management Council will review reports and recommendations from the various Division II committees, as well as the Association-wide committees, when applicable. These reports will be presented by the Management Council member who serves as the Management Council representative to that committee.

### **Business.**

For the transaction of business, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Management Council.

For all actions (unless otherwise specified), a simple majority of Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) shall be required.

A two-thirds vote of the Division II Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) is required to recommend that the Executive Board ~~Presidents-Council~~ cosponsor or sponsor a specific legislative proposal.

A two-thirds vote of the Division II Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) is required to support or oppose a specific legislative proposal. If a two-thirds majority to support or oppose is not achieved, the Management Council will take no position.

Any Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal should be recused from the vote on the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal. In addition, while a Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal may participate in the proceedings related to the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal, such Management Council member should not influence the position of the Council (see conflict of interest statement in this policies and procedures document).

~~The Presidents Council has delegated the authority to adopt noncontroversial legislation to the Management Council.~~ The Management Council, in the interim between annual Conventions, by a three-fourths majority of its members present and voting, may adopt noncontroversial legislative amendments clearly necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the division's legislation.

Abstentions will not be counted in the determination of a simple ~~majority~~, amajority, a two-thirds majority or a three-fourths majority.

No proxy voting (i.e., voting when not present by having another member vote on your behalf or informing the chair of your vote without attending a meeting) of any kind shall be permitted for a Management Council member unable to attend a regular Management Council meeting.

When disseminating information to the media and the general public, only the chair or the vice-chair of the Management Council and/or an appointed designee from the Management Council and the Division II vice-president shall speak on behalf of the Management Council regarding Management Council actions.

A tobacco-free environment will be maintained during Management Council meetings.

### Reports.

Minutes of all NCAA meetings should be restricted to actions only (formal votes or stated "sense of meeting") and such factual data as may be needed. Discussion and general commentary shall be included in reports only when formally directed by the Management Council chair or formally required by a Management Council member.

Reports of Management Council meetings shall be placed for public view on the NCAA Web site ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)).

### Confidentiality Policy.

- Management Council members may not report the actions of the Management Council to individuals outside the Management Council until the meeting adjourns.
- Actions the Management Council takes that have to be ratified/approved by the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ should not be reported until ratification by the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~. These are issues that the chair, in consultation with the staff liaisons, should look for and identify throughout the meeting (e.g., those issues that are of

such a sensitive nature that they should not be reported until after ratification by the presidents).

- When an issue is extremely sensitive, an "executive session" will be called, alerting the Management Council to the fact that the issue cannot be discussed at any time outside the meeting. Calling an "executive session" does not require the staff to leave the meeting.

### **Conflict of Interest Statement.**

The NCAA is a voluntary Association comprised of public and private institutions and conferences 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.

A committee member who receives information under confidential or nondisclosure terms, including but not limited to Association business or litigation matters, shall adhere to those confidential obligations as a primary matter. In addition to any fiduciary obligation to their institution and conference, committee members also have a fiduciary duty to the Association not to use nonconfidential knowledge or information obtained solely due to service on that committee to the disadvantage of the Association. 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 they may have hereunder and should recuse themselves 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. A committee member who acts contrary to this policy may void defense and indemnity privileges that are provided by the Association in connection with committee service.

### **Speaking Agent Policy.**

The president of the Association and the chair of the 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 NCAA 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. (*April 2001 Board of Governors (formerly Executive Committee) minutes*)

### **Guiding Principle Relating to Student-Athlete Well-Being.**

The Management Council endorsed and should adhere to the following guiding principle in all of its processes and decision making:

*The well-being of student-athletes is at the center of all we do:*

1. *Any process must be flexible and timely and include effective communication.*
2. *Decisions must be fair, reasonable and consider the potential impact on the student-athlete.*

### **Amending and Publishing Policies and Procedures.**

The Management Council shall have the authority to adopt or revise the policies and procedures specified herein as needed. The ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~, at its discretion, may review, amend and/or act on any policy or procedure adopted by the Management Council.

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## *Basic Responsibilities of Management Council Members*

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### 1. **General Requirements:**

- a. Division II Management Council members must be actively involved in campus and conference athletics issues. This will allow Management Council members to bring informed opinions to Management Council meetings. Management Council members must serve as liaisons to national issues for their conference members.
- b. Attendance and participation at all Management Council meetings, including the Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit and the annual NCAA Convention, are required. If a Management Council member must miss a meeting, it is that individual's responsibility to inform their conference (if the individual is representing a conference), the chair of the Management Council and the vice-president for Division II. If a Management Council member misses two or more Management Council meetings, formal notification of each absence will be sent by the Management Council chair and the vice-president for Division II to the president of the conference and the conference commissioner.
- c. A Management Council member who represents a conference must establish a working relationship with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) representative from that conference. It is important for Management Council members to understand the Division II student-athlete perspective on legislative proposals and other key Division II issues.
- d. Attendance and participation at committee and project team meetings, as assigned by the Management Council, are required. Management Council members serve as liaisons between the committees/project teams and the Management Council.
- e. Management Council members who experience difficulty in fulfilling their responsibilities will work with the vice-president and the Management Council chair to resolve this issue.

### 2. **Specific Pre-Management Council Meeting Responsibilities:**

- a. Management Council members should solicit agenda items or issues from conference members (or independent institutions) for the next Management Council meeting. To place items on the agenda, Management Council representatives should forward a written request to the vice-president for Division II at least ten business days prior to the start of the Management Council's meeting.
- b. Management Council members should make necessary travel arrangements for Management Council in-person meetings through Short's Travel (airline) and NCAA staff (accommodations).



[Note: Air reservations should be made 30 days in advance, when possible, and Management Council members are expected to arrive by the published start time of the meeting and should not schedule a departure from the meeting site prior to the published adjournment time of the Management Council meeting.]

- c. Management Council members should review the agenda and supplements to become knowledgeable on all issues and to understand the action the Management Council will be asked to consider.
- d. Management Council members should visit with their conference commissioners, Division II SAAC representatives, and other key personnel about agenda items and issues to form a conference position, when necessary.
- e. Management Council members should bring resource materials (e.g., Division II Manual, minutes from committee meetings) to the Management Council meeting.
- f. Management Council members should visit with NCAA committee staff liaisons to prepare report(s) to present to the Management Council for a committee supplement that a Management Council representative has been assigned.
- g. The Management Council representative's name will appear next to the committee agenda item, which indicates that the representative is responsible to provide the report and request action on any and all issues on which a Management Council decision is necessary (the staff liaison can assist with this).
- h. If the committee does not have a written supplement, the Management Council representative should be prepared to provide a brief "oral" update of the work of the committee.
- i. No issue may be requested for action by the Management Council unless it is contained as part of a written supplement. The Management Council will not take action unless an issue is presented in writing.
- j. It is not necessary and, in fact, the Management Council discourages the representative of a committee from reading the entire background of information on a given issue. The Management Council has received a written report as part of the agenda/supplements and is responsible to be prepared for the report. Management Council representatives should highlight the key components related to the committee request, ask for a motion, if necessary, and then be prepared to answer questions regarding the issue. Knowledge of how Divisions I and III have reacted to the issue may be helpful.

3. **Specific Post-Management Council Meeting Responsibilities:**

- a. Management Council members should inform conference members (including the commissioner) and the Division II SAAC representative of decisions made by the Management Council. In that regard, Management Council members should identify those decisions that still need Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ action or ratification.
  - b. Management Council members serving on committees should inform other committee members regarding the actions the Management Council took on specific committee recommendations. In that regard, Management Council members should identify those decisions that still need Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ action or ratification.
  - c. Management Council members should review Management Council meeting summaries and Management Council minutes for accuracy.
4. **Specific Committee/Project Team Responsibilities.** All Management Council members are expected to serve on Association-wide committees, Division II committees and/or Division II project teams, as assigned. As a committee or project team representative, Management Council members will serve as the liaison between the committee/project team and the Management Council. This link is the system by which committees/project teams make specific requests to the Management Council (and ultimately to the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~) and the system that provides the Management Council with the background and context it needs to process such requests. The specific Management Council responsibilities for committee/project team assignments are:
- a. Attend and participate in all committee/project team meetings and telephone/video conferences;
  - b. Be knowledgeable on all committee/project team issues and recommendations that are forwarded to the Management Council for consideration and be prepared to answer specific questions regarding such requests; and
  - c. Work with committee staff liaisons (e.g., a “prep” session by telephone) to be prepared to deliver the committee/project team report at Management Council meetings.

#### ***Membership Notification of Management Council Action***

Proper notification of Management Council actions includes, but is not limited to, the following, unless otherwise specified by the Management Council: notification in The NCAA News, as well as The NCAA News section on the Association’s World-Wide Web page, NCAA Online (www.ncaa.org).

Updated 04/18/23/MSJ/jcw



## Discussion Regarding Policy for Sponsorship of Convention Legislation

### Background

With the adoption of NCAA Proposal No. 2023-7, the Division II Management Council will be permitted to sponsor legislation for the annual Convention as part of its duties, effective February 1, 2024. With the new legislation, the new Division II Executive Board is still permitted to sponsor legislation for the NCAA Convention.

One goal of the proposal adopted at the 2023 Convention was to have the Management Council take greater ownership and responsibility to sponsor legislation for the Convention to provide the new Executive Board the opportunity to focus on the strategic priorities for the division.

The Management Council and Presidents Council are asked to consider establishing a policy to better define those legislative recommendations for the annual Convention that should be sponsored by the Executive Board and not just the Management Council.

Further, the Management Council and Presidents Council are asked to consider whether a similar policy should be established for when the Executive Board would take a position (e.g., support, opposition, no position) on membership-sponsored proposals.

### Potential Policy Recommendation for Sponsorship of Legislation for the Annual Convention

As a general rule, the Management Council will review and consider any legislative recommendation from Division II and Association-wide committees and determine whether to sponsor legislation for the NCAA Convention without requiring Executive Board sponsorship.

If the legislative recommendation has a significant financial impact to the Division II budget and/or on Division II schools and conferences, the Management Council shall recommend that the Executive Board sponsor the legislation for a vote at the annual Convention.

A two-thirds majority of the Management Council members present and voting is necessary to sponsor legislation for the annual Convention or to recommend sponsorship of legislation by the Executive Board (e.g., for recommendations with a significant financial impact). If a legislative recommendation does not receive a two-thirds majority, but receives a majority approval of the Management Council members present and voting, the legislative recommendation will be shared with the Executive Board for notice and awareness.

The Management Council will approve the legislative form for all proposals sponsored by the governance structure for a vote at the Convention, regardless of whether they were sponsored by the Management Council or the Executive Board. The Executive Board is not asked to act on the legislative form and will receive the legislative form of the proposals as an informational item in the Management Council report to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board will see all legislation sponsored by the Management Council for the annual Convention as an informational item in the Management Council report to the Executive Board.

Potential Policy Recommendation for Executive Board to Take a Position on Membership-Sponsored Proposals

Division II legislation requires that all amendments submitted by the membership shall be evaluated by an appropriate NCAA committee before they can be included on the agenda for an NCAA Convention.

Current Management Council policies and procedures state:

*A two-thirds vote of the Division II Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) is required to support or oppose a specific legislative proposal. If a two-thirds majority to support or oppose is not achieved, the Management Council will take no position. Any Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal should be recused from the vote on the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal. In addition, while a Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal may participate in the proceedings related to the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal, such Management Council member should not influence the position of the Council (see conflict of interest statement in this policies and procedures document).*

The Management Council and Executive Board are asked to consider whether when taking a position on a membership-sponsored proposal, should a similar threshold be established for when the Executive Board is asked to take a position: Specifically, the policy would state that the Management Council shall take a position on any membership-sponsored proposal and the Executive Board will only take a position if the legislative proposal has a significant financial impact to the Division II budget and/or on Division II schools and conferences.

Current legislation does not require the Management Council or Presidents Council/Executive Board to take a position on membership-sponsored proposals; therefore, a standard can be established as policy.



# NCAA Division II FAR Fellows Institute 2023

Friday, September 29 – Sunday, October 1, 2023



## A G E N D A

National Collegiate Athletic Association  
Division II FAR Fellows Institute

NCAA National Office  
Indianapolis, Indiana

September 29 - October 1, 2023

*(All activities will be held in the Palmer Pierce Room, located in the Dempsey Building of the NCAA national office, unless otherwise noted.)*

- Sept. 29      Day 1: The Model FAR and the State of Division II College Athletics**
- 2 p.m.            Arrival, registration, and mingling.
- 2:30 p.m.        Welcome, introductions, and opening work and discussion.
- *Diane Husic, project coordinator, 2023 FAR Fellows Institute.*
- 3:30 p.m.        Division II update and priorities.
- *Terri Steeb Gronau, vice president of Division II, NCAA.*
- 4 p.m.            BREAK.
- 4:15 p.m.        The President's big picture.
- *President Steven Shirley (Minot State University), Presidents Council chair (virtual)*
- 5:15 p.m.        Introduce "goals" of happy hour with Division II staff (getting to know who's who, networking).
- 5:30 p.m.        Happy hour and dinner. (NCAA Hall of Champions)
- 7 p.m.            It Starts With You!
- *Justin Patton, executive leadership coach, author, and international speaker, Justin Patton Inspires Inc.*
- 8:20 p.m.        Group discussion: The Model FAR and Role Clarity.  
- Identifying common critical elements of the role at Division II (picking up on a pre-Institute assignment).
- 9 p.m.            Closing remarks for the day/Reminders for Day 2. (*Husic*)

**Sept. 30**      **Day 2: Part One: Self-Awareness, Strategic Relationship Building**

- 8 a.m.            DISC.
- *Justin Patton, executive leadership coach, author, and international speaker, Justin Patton Inspires Inc.*
- 10 a.m.            BREAK.
- 10:15 a.m.        Deep reflection regarding DISC, how to use this information.
- 10:45 a.m.        Case study. (Apply your new skills!)
- 11:30 a.m.        Lunch and group photo. (Palmer Pierce Atrium)
- 1 p.m.            Panel of stakeholders – Discussing the value of working with an FAR (virtual).
- *SAAC representative: Kara Amos, SAAC's internal operations coordinator on the committee's Executive Board; softball student-athlete at Missouri Southern State University*
  - *Athletics Director: Amy Henkelman, director of athletics, Dominican University of California*
  - *Commissioner: Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference*
- 2:15 p.m.        Group discussion about morning activities and panel.
- 2:30 p.m.        Understanding the new NCAA constitution and the evolving role of the Division II FAR (implementation of the new constitution and structural changes).
- *Kevin Schriver, FAR, Southwest Baptist University*
  - *Marty Gilbert, FAR, Mars Hill University*
- 3 p.m.            Break
- 3:15 p.m.        NCAA research findings GOALS data and the student-athlete well-being studies.
- *Lydia Bell, director of research and policy, NCAA*
- 4 p.m.            The impact of self-promotion and social media on sleep and mental health among student-athletes. Discussion about mental health resources and the FAR role in student-athlete well-being; student well-being, safety, and inclusion.
- *Rhonda Beemer, FAR, Northwest Missouri State University*
  - *Kevin Schriver, FAR, Southwest Baptist University*
- 5 p.m.            Group activity and open discussion.

5:45 p.m. Closing comments for day/Reminders for day 3. *(Husic)*

6:30 p.m. Group dinner. *(Offsite)*

**Oct. 1**      **Day 3: Strategic Relationship Building, Being an Effective Leader as FAR, and Action Planning**

8 a.m. Weekend recap: Taking stock *(Husic)*

8:30 a.m. Reflections from Steering Committee members about their experiences as an FAR and through leadership opportunities at the campus, conference, and national levels.

9:15 a.m. Elevator speeches.

9:45 a.m. Group discussion: How can an FAR be more effective in their role? *(Husic)*

10 a.m. BREAK.

10:15 a.m. FAR as leader and the evolving role of the FAR: Can you really do it all? *(Husic)*

10:45 a.m. Individual action plan development.

11:30 a.m. Closing activity (commitment circle) and evaluation completion. *(Husic)*

Noon Box lunches and departure.





## NCAA Division II Diversity Grants Update

### 1. Grants Overviews.

- a. **Coaching Enhancement Grant.** The Coaching Enhancement Grant is designed to provide financial assistance to Division II member institutions for the creation of new assistant coaching positions, with the intent to encourage access, recruitment, selection and the long-term success of ethnic minorities and women. Selected recipients receive three years of grant funds from the NCAA. The NCAA contributes \$25,000 during the first year of funding for the salary and benefits of the hired assistant coach; \$15,000 during the second year; and \$8,000 in the third year. Recipients supply the complementary funding toward the salary and benefits. Additionally, the NCAA provides \$1,200 for each year of funding to emphasize the commitment to professional development. Participating institutions are required to maintain the position for a minimum of two years after grant funds are exhausted, preferably incorporating the position into their ongoing operations.
  - b. **Ethnic Minorities and Women's Internship Grant.** The Division II Ethnic Minorities and Women's Internship Grant is designed to provide financial assistance to Division II conferences and member institutions committed to enhancing ethnic minority and gender representation in full-time, entry-level administrative positions. Selected recipients receive one year of grant funds, including \$30,000 to be allocated toward the hired intern's salary and \$3,000 in professional development funding. Recipients must also contribute \$5,000, at minimum, as an in-kind gift to the hired intern as outlined in their proposal.
  - c. **Strategic Alliance Matching Grant.** The Strategic Alliance Matching Grant provides funding for Division II institutions and conference offices to enhance diversity and inclusion through full-time, senior-level positions in athletics administration. Selected institutions and conference offices receive grant funding for three years, with diminishing contributions by the NCAA. The NCAA funds 75 percent of the position during the first year; 50 percent the second year; and 25 percent the third year. Participating institutions or conference offices are required to maintain the position for a minimum of two years after grant funds are exhausted, preferably incorporating the position into their ongoing operations.
2. **Eligibility.** For all grants, the position must be considered full time and the hired employee must identify as an ethnic minority and/or woman according to federal guidelines.
  3. **2023-24 Proposal Submission Information.** Proposals for the 2024-25 selection cycle may be submitted starting Monday, September 25, 2023, and must be submitted not later than Wednesday, January 31, 2024, via the NCAA Program Hub.
  4. **NCAA Staff Liaison.** For more information regarding the Division II diversity grants, visit the [Division II diversity grants website](#) or contact Lamarr Pottinger, director of leadership development via e-mail at ([lpottinger@ncaa.org](mailto:lpottinger@ncaa.org)) or phone (317-363-5719).



# NCAA DII Landscape Content Audit

08.1.23



# Landscape Content Audit

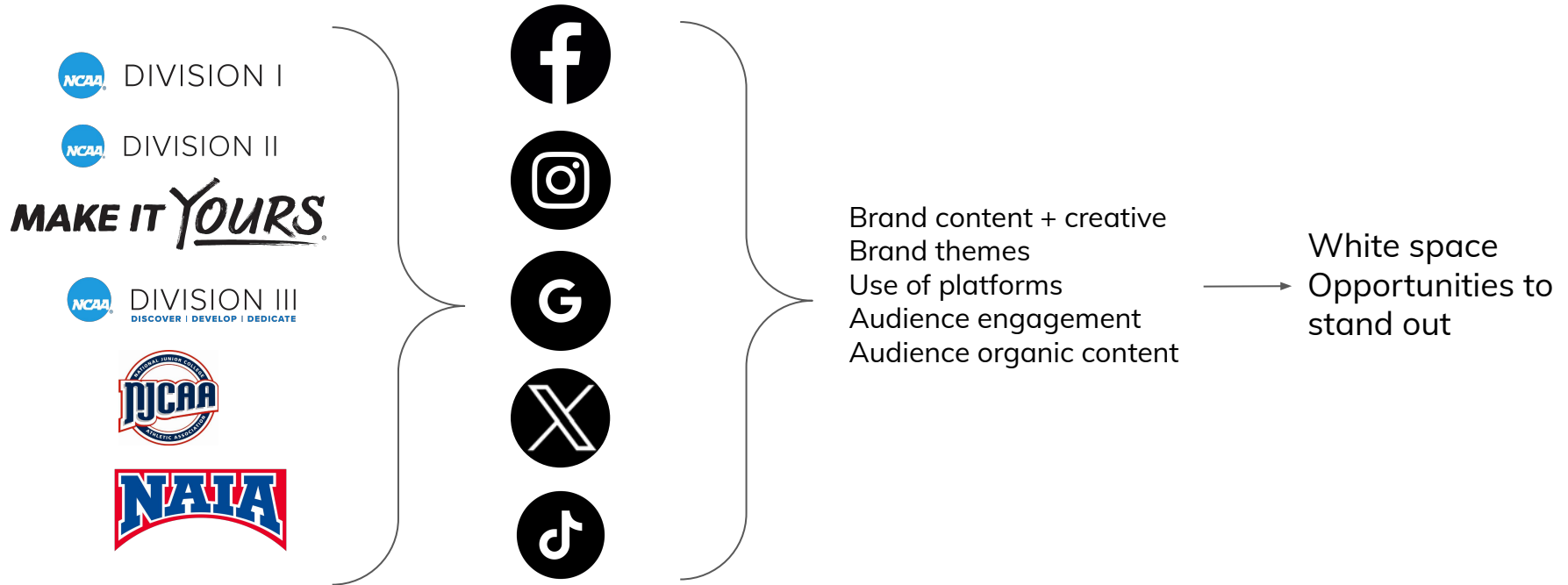
## WHAT

Evaluation of channels, messaging, creative, and engagement (consumer and brand community engagement) of brand and competitors

## WHY

Identify whitespace opportunities for NCAA DII as well as what's working and not working in the space

# Methodology



# How to Use This Audit

This audit is the first piece of research completed by Barkley. The information contained herein will be used in two ways:

1. Now: As an overview of the social and search landscape in the student athletic space. It's a snapshot of the content overlaps, similarities, and differences among NCAA, NJCAA, and NAIA. Initial observations and early suggestions are shared.
2. Later: After the qualitative, quantitative (possibly), and syndicated research is complete, we will use this research audit as a tool to guide what content, search, and social strategies will resonate with our audiences. That will guide the comms plan.



	NCAA DI	NCAA DII	NCAA DIII	NJCAA	NAIA
<b>Content Overview/ Social Presence Takeaway</b>	Highlights championships, athlete awards and leadership opportunities at every division level  Content shared across channels. Separate accounts for March Madness.	Mirrors NCAA content themes.  Highlights athletes beyond collegiate level. Drives content to NCAA blog rather than only telling stories on social platforms.  Content shared across channels.	Mirrors NCAA content themes.  Recently shifted visual focus to the highly emotional and human side of competition and winning.  Content shared across channels.	Institutions with a stronger content presence are highlighted through sharing bringing school pride forward.	Aligning and representing college roots and student bodies, content focus on core values including DEI&B women's issues, gener, Native American, etc.
<b>Facebook</b>	<b>Followers:</b> 345K <b>Overview:</b> Championship, athlete and leadership program features.  Lowest engagement platform.	<b>Followers:</b> 49K <b>Overview:</b> Team tournament highlights, how to watch games, and athlete features. Rule updates	<b>Followers:</b> 35K <b>Overview:</b> Recent content series feature human and emotional side of winning.	<b>Followers:</b> 22K <b>Overview:</b> Highlight reel of team and athlete accomplishments and organizational updates. (Mainly static images & link posts)	<b>Followers:</b> 33K <b>Overview:</b> Promotes NAIA offerings, tools and organizational values for potential students. (Mainly static images & link posts)
<b>Instagram</b>	<b>Followers:</b> 384K <b>Overview:</b> Championship, athlete and leadership program features.	<b>Followers:</b> 60K <b>Overview:</b> Team tournament highlights, how to watch games, and athlete features.  Highest engagement platform.	<b>Followers:</b> 45K <b>Overview:</b> Recent content series feature human and emotional side of winning.  Highest engagement platform.	<b>Followers:</b> 22.1K <b>Overview:</b> Highlight reel of team and athlete accomplishments. (Mainly static images)	<b>Followers:</b> 25.4K <b>Overview:</b> Educational and inspirational content about NAIA and how/why to get involved. (Frequent use of videos/reels)
<b>Twitter</b>	<b>Followers:</b> 1.9M <b>Overview: Highlight reel of programs, championships, and athlete awards.</b> Engages with school athletic handles at all levels, pre game. Championship, athlete and leadership program features.	<b>Followers:</b> 121.2K <b>Overview:</b> Team tournament highlights, how to watch games, and athlete features. Shares content from DI-I institutions, bringing team pride forward.  Lowest engagement platform.	<b>Followers:</b> 104.8K <b>Overview:</b> Team tournament highlights, how to watch games, and athlete features. Rule updates.  Lowest engagement platform.	<b>Followers:</b> 61.8K <b>Overview:</b> Team achievement highlights, current and former athlete highlights	<b>Followers:</b> 65.8K <b>Overview:</b> Summary of all efforts (recruiting, compliance, human interests, Partner Connect and Podcasts)
<b>TikTok</b>	<b>Followers:</b> 28.5K <b>Overview:</b> Athlete interviews, leadership, championships  Highest engagement platform.	n/a	n/a	<b>Followers:</b> 247 <b>Overview:</b> Championships sizzle reels	<b>Followers:</b> 1738 <b>Overview:</b> DEI, Core Values, History FAQs, How to become an NAIA athlete, student athletes
<b>Threads</b>	<b>Followers:</b> 43.1K <b>Overview:</b> Athlete achievements, leadership conferences, school championships	n/a	<b>Followers:</b> 4K <b>Overview:</b> Championship overviews. Very light content.	n/a	<b>Followers:</b> 1869 <b>Overview:</b> n/a (no posts yet)

# Content Themes

Goal of social in this space: Orientation. This means focusing on meeting the customer requirements, their desires and wants when making purchase decisions or in this case, college life+sports decisions. These are the orientation factors we suspect will lead to influence over decisions. **Biggest 'competitor' in social: NAIA and NCAA DIII**

NCAA DI	NCAA DII	NCAA DIII	NJCAA	NAIA
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Production quality (translates to more \$ and potentially athlete opportunities)

Engaging content strategy

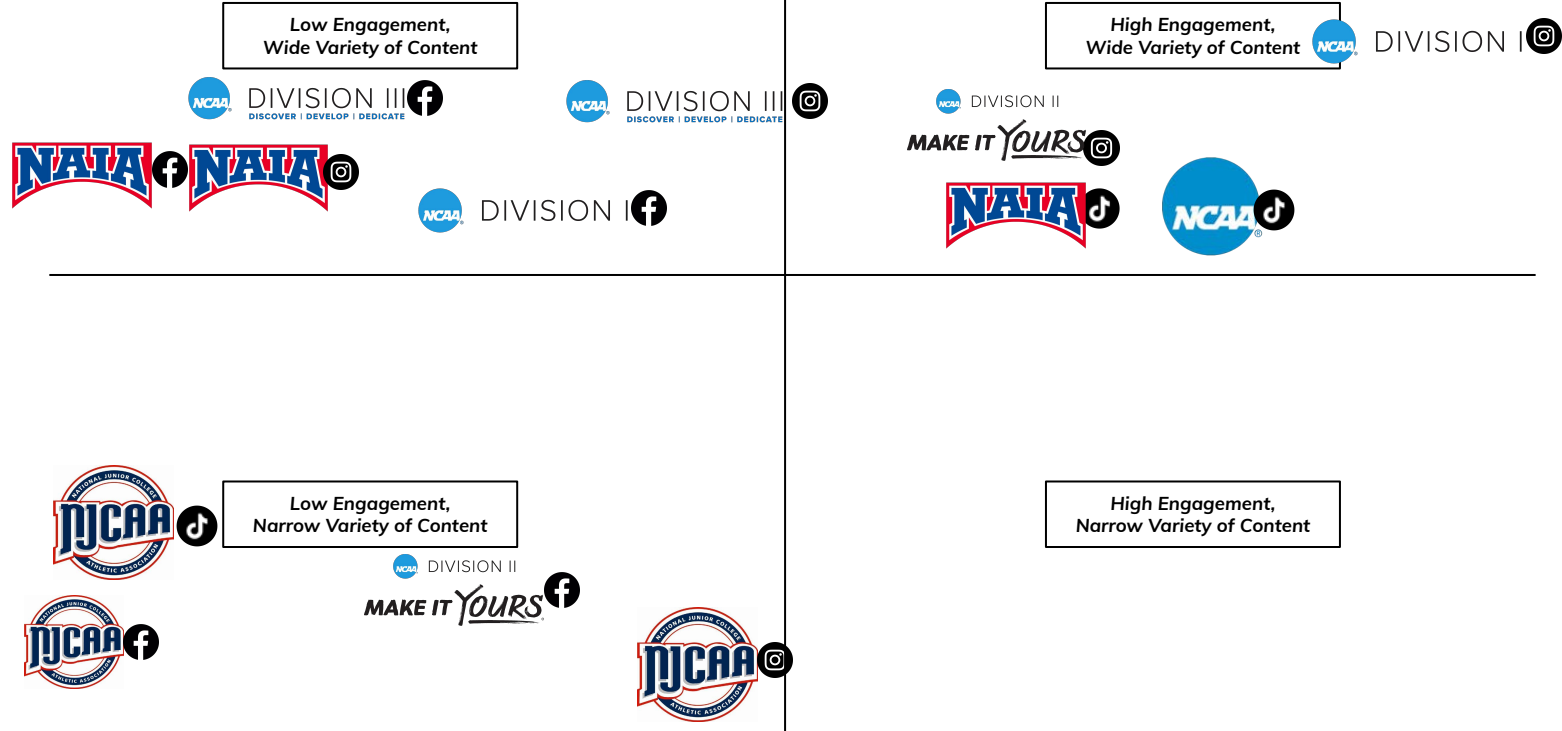
Beyond athleticism, into athletic leadership

Winning sizzle reels

Core values + student life

# Platform Ranks

Engagement/Interest (shares, likes, saves, comments)



Content breadth and depth



# Executive Summary

## Focus on athletes and leadership



NCAA overall has the highest reach and engagement rate across platforms. Its 'scattershot' approach is broad and deep (#s and accounts dedicated to specific sports). It balances standings and championships with athlete life and preparing for the future.

## Focus on values, history, recruitment



NAIA has a strong content strategy that works for them, focusing on recruitment and life as a student athlete, interspersed with team scores and championships. It focuses on building the NAIA 'brand' through core values and history across all platforms.

## Focus on championships



NJCAA focuses most of their content on championships and scores. Some of their content is outdated and their production quality is low. They do not post often nor regularly and do not seem to have an outreach strategy

**While all associations and divisions post for specific intent, all could improve student interest with stronger communications strategies that combine content with CTAs driving students to interactive or longer-form, useful content (website, microsites, etc). There is little-to-no community engagement/management, missing the opportunity for deep connections, media pickup, and risking negative sentiment.**





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# NCAA DII Landscape Overview

- Cross-linking and cross-sharing content with DII schools and with NCAA. This is good practice to increase reach and engagement
- Multiple unverified accounts, making it difficult to decipher which content is legitimately DII
- Broad reach of content focusing on celebrating champions, former DII athletes, current athletes as ‘spokespeople’ for core values such as mental health stability and leadership.

# Instagram Presence Overview



Threads account not yet claimed.

# Instagram Content Themes



Share awards and accolades of current NCAA DII teams



Promote NCAA values (mental health, DEI, etc.)



Student athlete features

# Facebook Presence Overview



NCAA DII is not currently running ads.

Promote IG Takeovers,  
promote high across  
platforms.

Content is also  
cross-shared from other  
platforms, but potentially  
created with FB or IG in  
mind first.

# Facebook Content Themes



Share awards and accolades of current NCAA DII teams

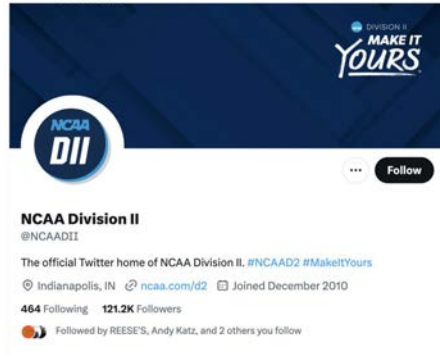


Features from other media



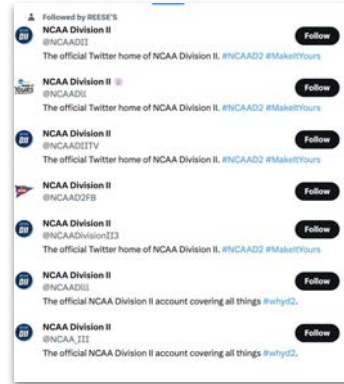
Upcoming tournament schedules, and how to follow

# Twitter Presence Overview



Similar to Instagram, there are some sport-specific accounts for NCAA.

While content is shared across other channels, unique interactions take place with institutions.



A number of profiles claim to be the official DII account, all without verification, making it difficult to trust any single handle without vetting content generated by each.



# Twitter Content Themes



Share awards and successes of current teams and athletes

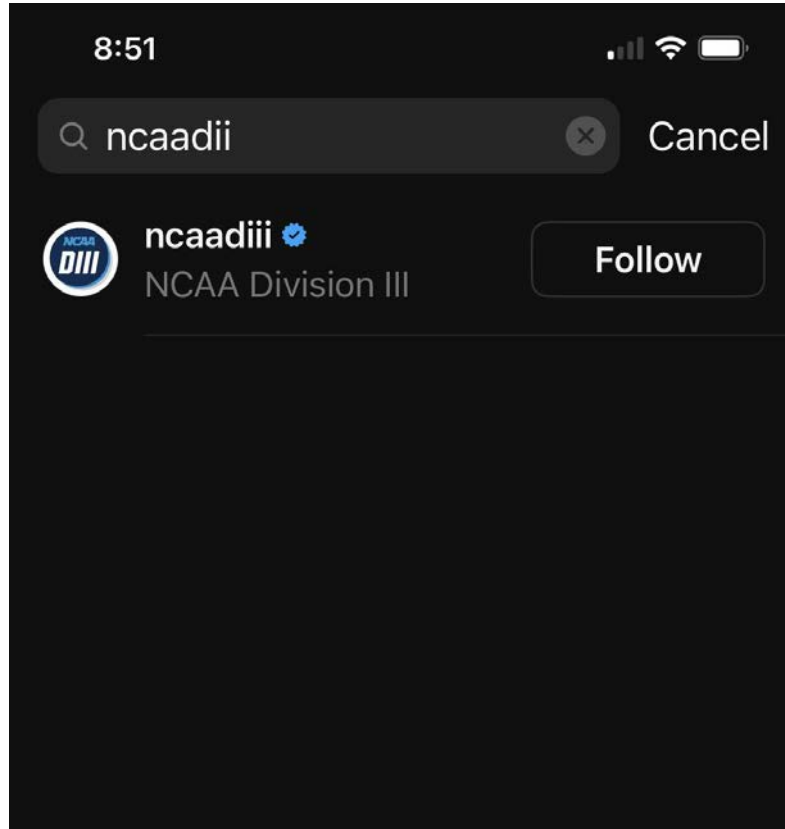


Upcoming tournament schedules, and how to follow



Student and professional athlete highlights

# Threads: No Presence

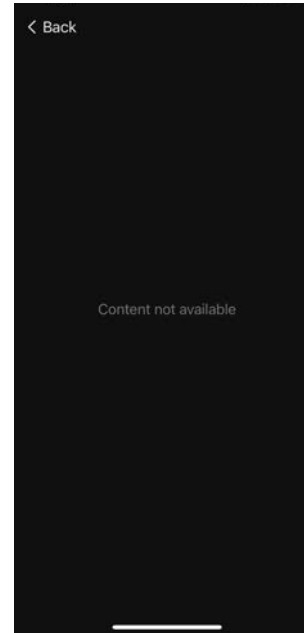


Diii is the only  
division-specific handle

# Threads: DII mentions



NCAA mentions DII in few posts. Those that do, link to a dead page





# DIVISION I





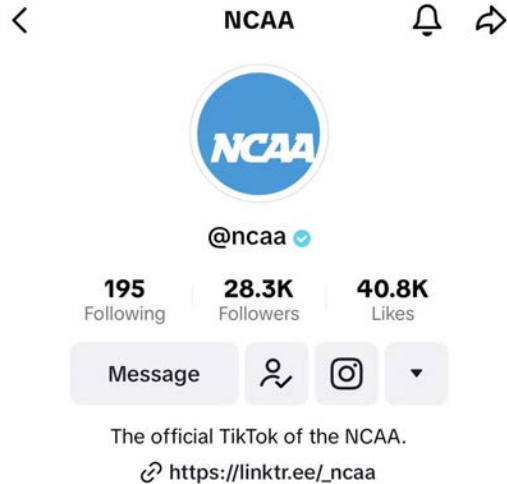
# NCAA DI Landscape Overview

- Heavy focus on the student athletes. From awards to leadership skills learned through NCAA programs. Well-produced student snapshots appear to focus on recruitment and retention as ‘the leader’ in college athletics.
- Mixed-performance with multiple #s. Using as many as they do without a strategy to support each content column scatters their engagement, but it also broadens reach. Creating a content strategy for each along with landing pages and CTAs could increase interest, awareness, and engagement.
- Engagement with community comments is low-to-non-existent and limits effectiveness. This comes through especially in community posts voicing complaints against the NCAA, tagging them, and seeing no response.

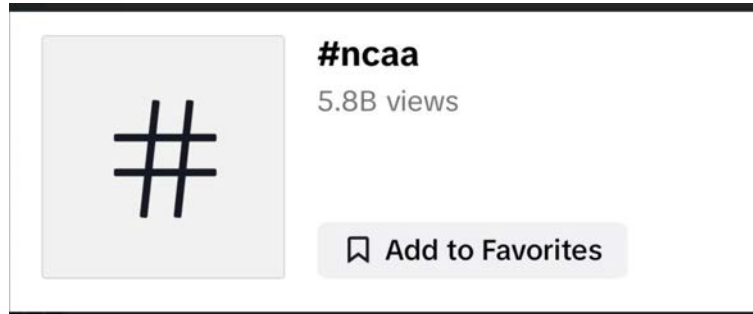




# TikTok Summary



No separate NCAA accounts - all under one umbrella  
Moderate follower count  
Low engagement with audience, high reach with #





All

# Bifurcated hashtags might dilute impact



**#ncaadi**

15.1K views

Add to Favorites



**#ncaadii**

3.7M views

Add to Favorites



**#ncaadiii**

153.4K views

Add to Favorites



**#ncaad1**

8.3M views

Add to Favorites



**#ncaad2**

4.1M views

Add to Favorites



**#ncaad3**

3.5M views

Add to Favorites



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# TikTok: Hashtags

In posts:

#NCAA  
#NCAAstudentathlete  
#NCAAhonors  
#NCAAsoccer  
#NCAAfootball  
#NCAAbaseball  
#NVAAvolleyball  
#NCAAvb  
#NCAADii  
#NCAALearnLead  
#NCAAwbb  
#NCAAmbb  
etc.

NCAA uses a mix of specific and broad #s in their posts. Ideally, this helps increase reach and relevance.

However, we're not seeing that in this case, leading us to believe creative expansion into trends can help posts get picked up by the algorithm.





# TikTok Pins: What They Portray

## No Pins

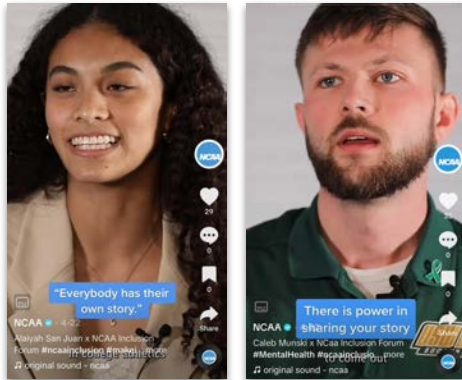
While not necessary, Pins give audiences a glimpse into some of the best and most representative content of a brand. These increase the opportunity of content gaining attention, awareness, and engagement.

This is a missed opportunity.



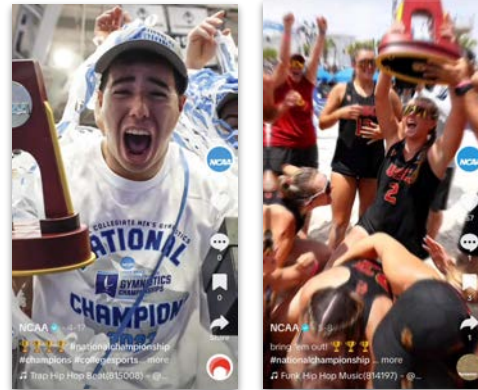
# TikTok: Content Categories

## Athlete Testimonials



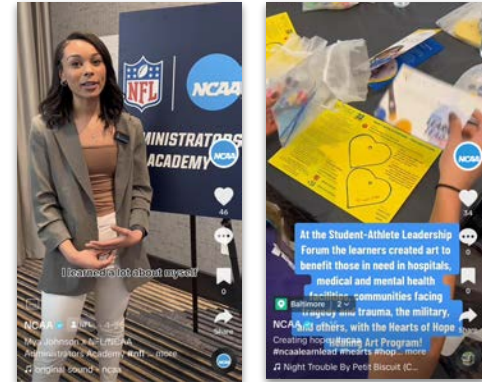
Many focus on DEI+B, personal stories of triumph, what NCAA means to them

## Team Highlights



Fast-cut, hype music, good production quality

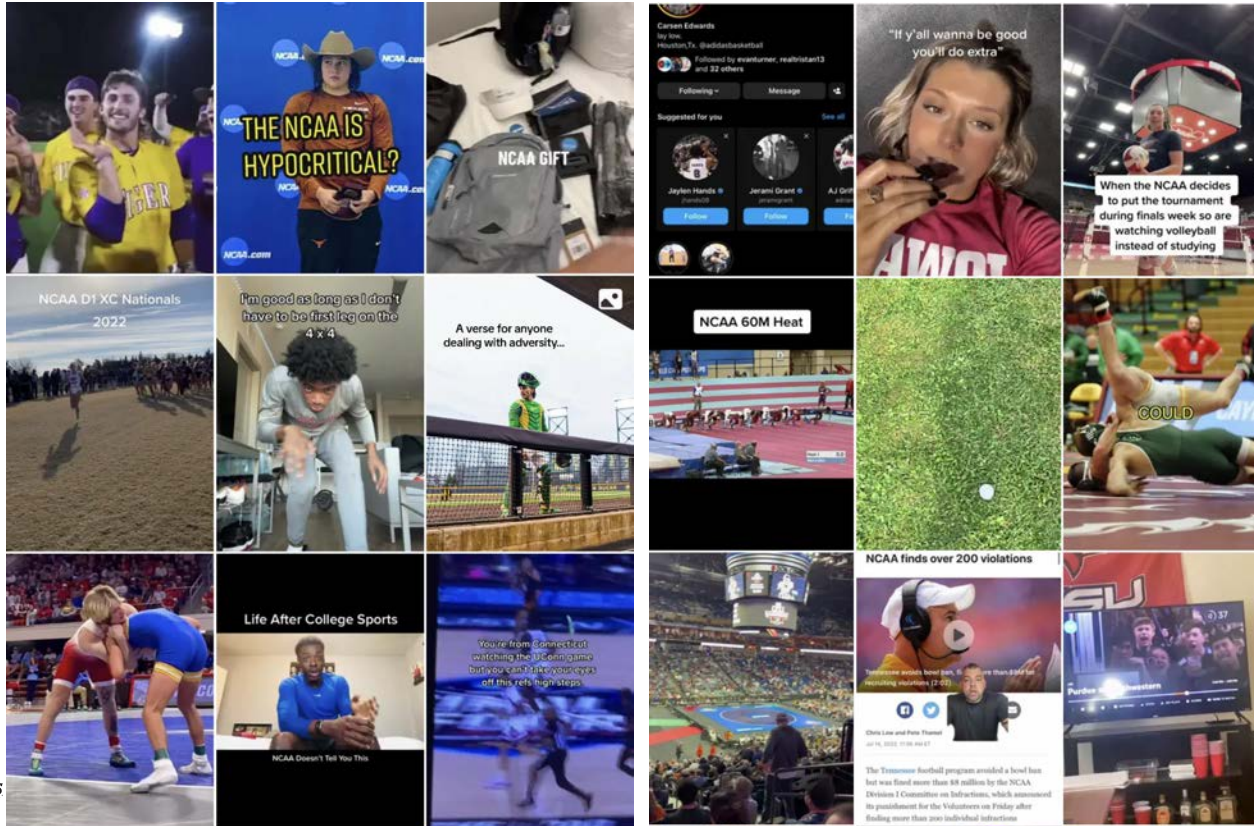
## NCAA Programs (sports+life)



Leadership and learning



# TikTok: What People Are Saying



Athlete sizzle reels

Championships

Complaints



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# TikTok: Engagement

## Most watched video

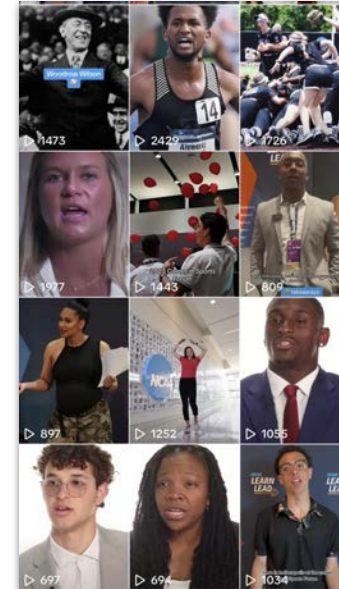
32.4K views  
2817 likes  
31 shares



Student athlete watching back video and giving play-by-play of her perfect gymnastics/beam performance

## Average video views

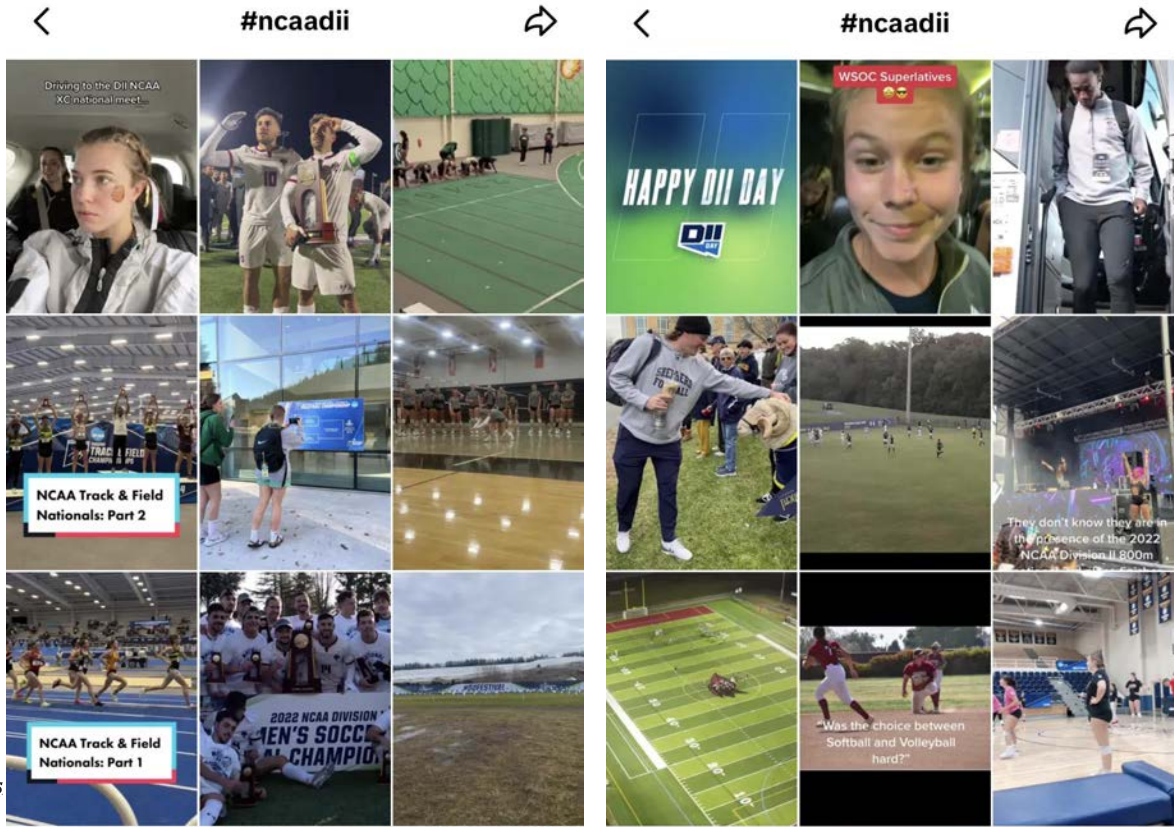
500-1500 views  
20-100 likes  
2 shares







# TikTok: #DII



Low-to-moderate reach and engagement

Posted by schools and individuals:

Sizzle reels  
Highlights  
Trends



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# Instagram Presence Overview



Sport-specific accounts exist including soccer, volleyball, wrestling, soccer and track and field.

NCAA DI and sport-specific accounts have claimed Threads handles but are not yet active.



Threads activity is focused to initial launch days.

Content mirrors its Twitter strategy. Community management engaged with NCAA institutions as a “roll call” for who was exploring the new platform.

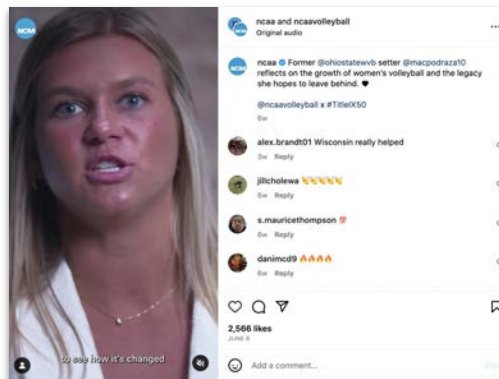


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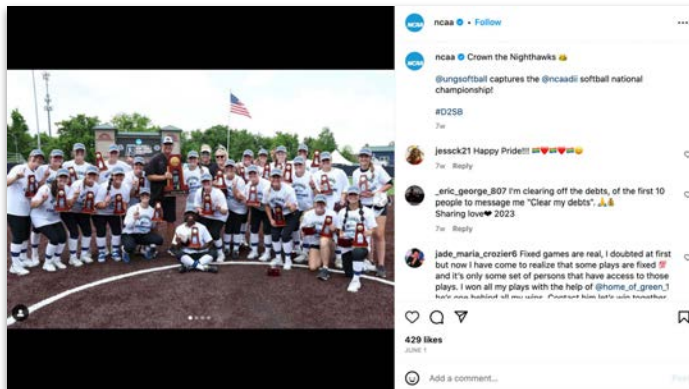


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# Instagram Content Themes



Athlete features including photos and video Q&A



Championship Team Features



Highlight reels from leadership forums and conferences



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# Facebook Presence Overview



NCAA DI is not currently running ads.

Select content is published on Facebook, leaving less duplication and overlap from other channels.

Content primarily focuses on leadership opportunities provided for athlete, administrators, and various groups across the organization.







DIVISION I

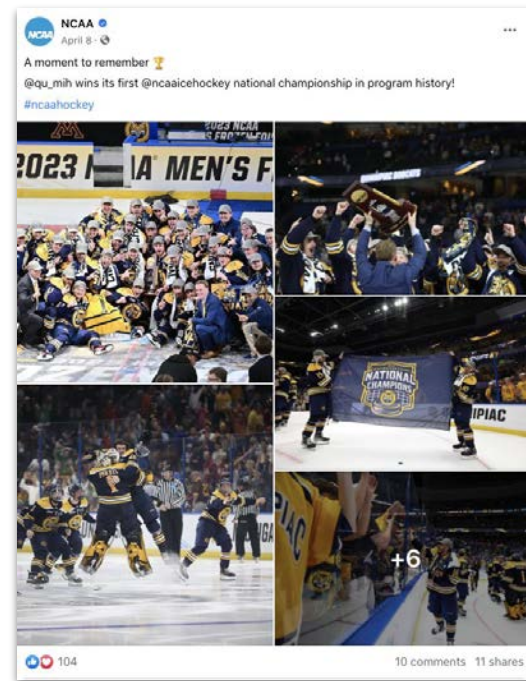
# Facebook Content



Leadership Programs



Athlete awards



Championship Recognition

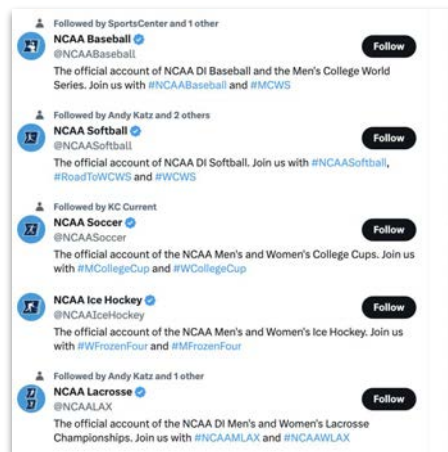


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# Twitter Presence Overview



Beyond sport-specific accounts, also have specific handles for March Madness.

Fans have set up accounts for records and other niche interests.



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# Twitter Content Themes



Content follows seasonality from playoffs to championships, awards and recognitions



Engages with both conferences and individual programs.



Highlights athletes and milestones across all divisions, including DII



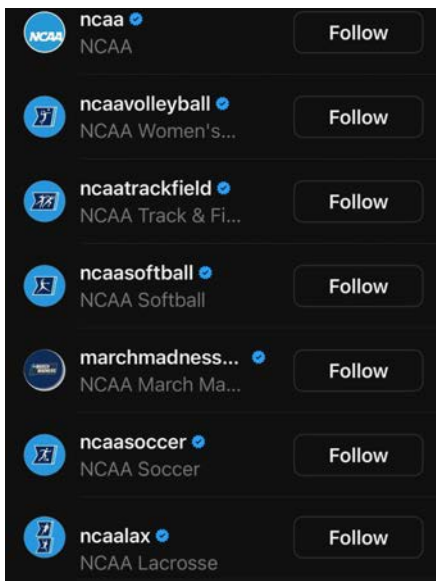
Heavy focus on leadership programs and forums



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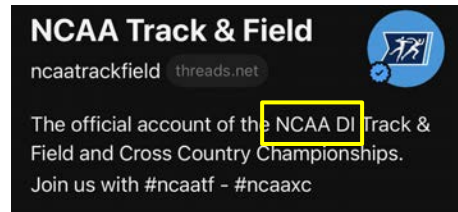
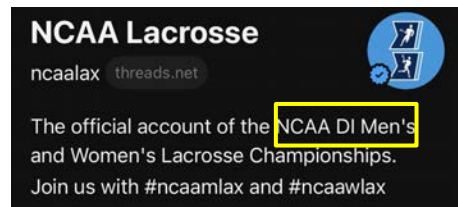


# Threads



NCAA has locked in most of their handles

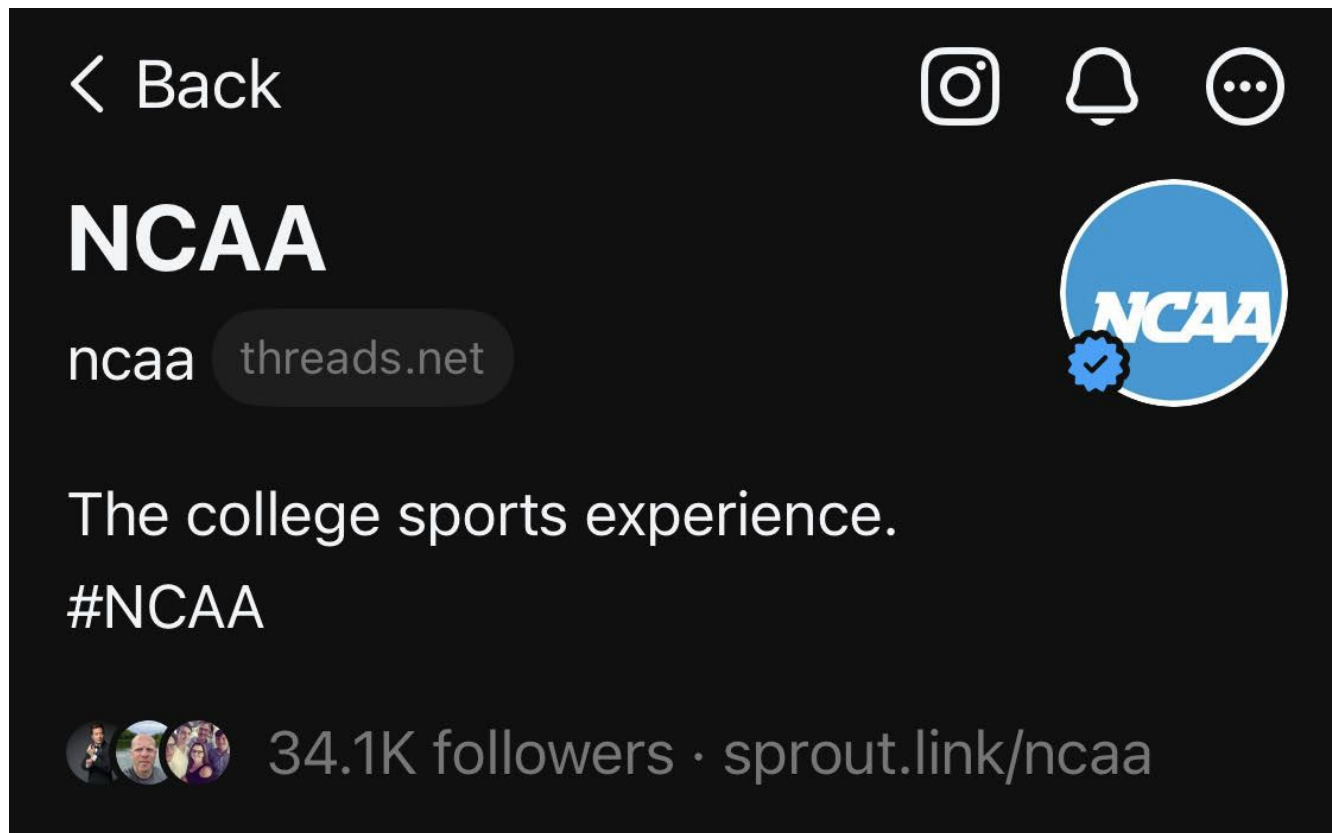
Those with specific sports are DI only





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# Threads: NCAA




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# Threads: NCAA is the only to post so far

**NCAA Women's Volleyball**

[ncaavolleyball](#) [threads.net](#)


The official account of NCAA DI Women's and Beach Volleyball.  
Join us with [#ncaawvb](#) and [#ncaabeachvb](#)

 23.8K followers · [linktr.ee/ncaavolleyball](#)

[Follow](#)

[Threads](#) [Replies](#)

No threads yet

**NCAA Ice Hockey**

[ncaaicehockey](#) [threads.net](#)


The official account of the NCAA Ice Hockey and Men's and Women's Frozen Fours.  
Join us with [#ncaahockey](#)

7,784 followers · [linktr.ee/ncaaicehockey](#)

[Follow](#)

[Threads](#) [Replies](#)

No threads yet

**NCAA Track & Field**

[ncaatrackfield](#) [threads.net](#)

The official account of the NCAA DI Track & Field and Cross Country Championships.  
Join us with [#ncaatf](#) - [#ncaaxc](#)

16K followers · [linktr.ee/ncaatf](#)

[Follow](#)

[Threads](#) [Replies](#)

No threads yet



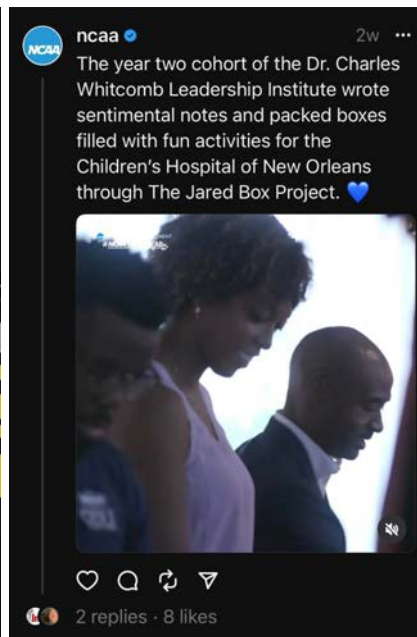


# Threads: NCAA content

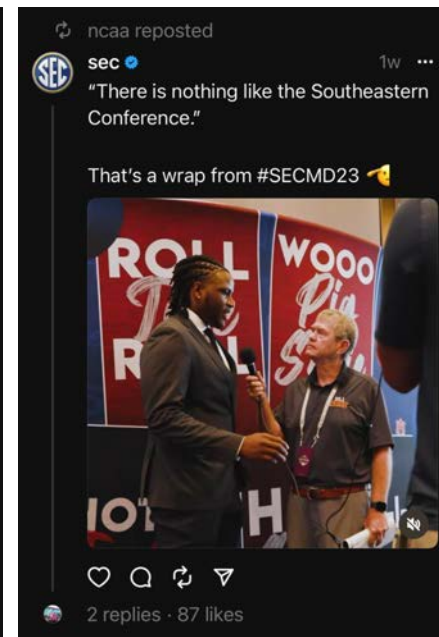
## About half of the posts are lifts from Twitter (X)



Current and former athlete highlights



NCAA leadership



Repost conference and school highlights



# DIVISION III

**DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE**





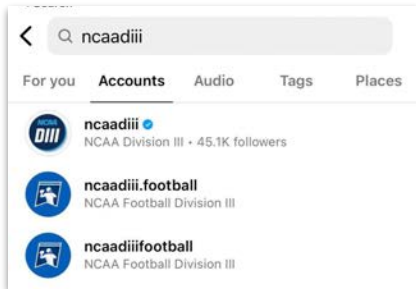
# NCAA DIII Landscape Overview

- Heavy focus on players, in-game. Favorite Frames, and student/team highlight frames from games
- Schools' championship highlights reposts; boosts school and DIII reach and shows support for schools rather than only students
- Schedules, scores, key plays
- Like all other divisions and associations, low-to-no community engagement or management

# Instagram Presence Overview



Football is the only sport-specific account, (7 posts between the two accounts). It's unclear if these are fan or official.



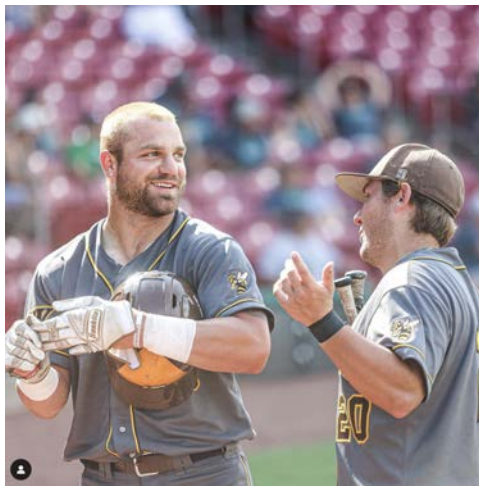
Threads community management promised future content featuring one new sport in order of championships. No follow up content has been shared since (2 weeks ago).

DIII content recently pivoted visual direction showing more human reactions (caption labels these as Favorite Frames).

# Instagram Content Themes



Human reactions via Favorite Frames content series (recent shift)

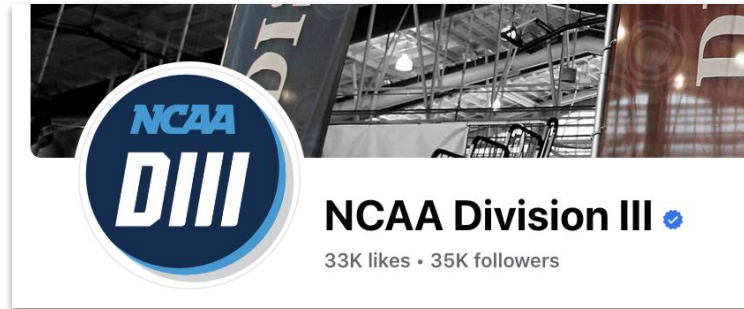


Athlete performance highlights



Similar to Favorite Frames, championship coverage features human reactions more than posed photos

# Facebook Presence Overview



A smaller range of content is shared on Facebook compared to other channels. Content is repetitive, featuring designed scores and upcoming events.

Facebook content drives slightly more average engagement than other divisions.

NCAA DIII is not currently running ads.

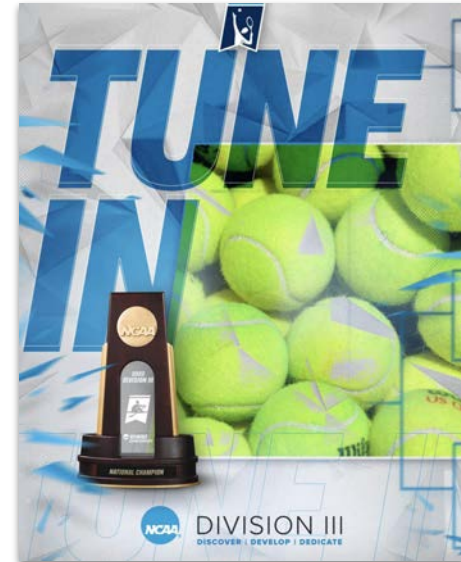


DIVISION III  
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

# Facebook Content



Championship scores and results



Upcoming games,  
tournament schedules, and  
how to follow



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# Twitter Presence Overview



Similar to Instagram, there are some sport-specific accounts for NCAA DIII.



A number of profiles claim to be the official DIII account, all without verification, making it difficult to trust any single handle without vetting content generated by each.



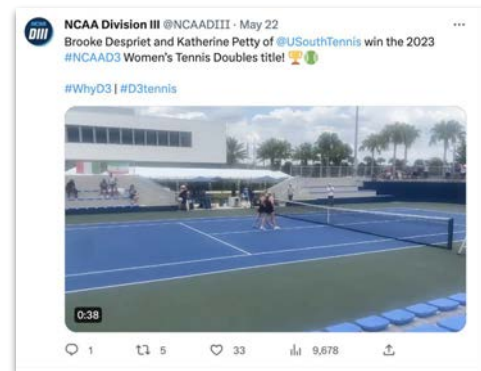
# Twitter Content Themes



Reshares content from other NCAA divisions and DIII schools rather than original creation



Upcoming games, tournament schedules, and how to follow



Key moments and plays



DIVISION III  
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

# Threads



One DIII account to cover all sports



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# Threads



Only three Threads so far, mostly highlighting last year's championships.

Replying to comments/questions



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# NJCAA Landscape Overview

- Focus on games, awards, and stats with little-to-no student athletes featured
- More engagement and posts from the students and schools/athletic programs #’ing NJCAA than from NJCAA itself
- On some platforms, they share CTAs with links for more information, which encourages students to engage with content and learn more about NJCAA
- Low production quality which can signal overall low quality impression of NJCAA opportunities





# TikTok Profile

< Juco Basketball and Foot... 🔔 ➦



@njcaa.sports

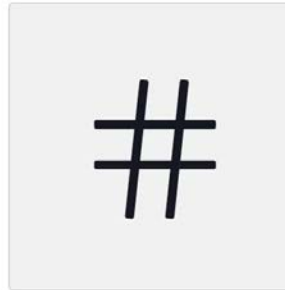
44 Following 247 Followers 6857 Likes

Follow

NJCAA Football (D1 and D3)  
NJCAA Basketball (D1 and D2)



Extremely low follower count  
Extremely low engagement  
34 videos  
Only men's football and basketball  
Much further reach through organic use of #



#njcaa

47.2M views

🔖 Add to Favorites



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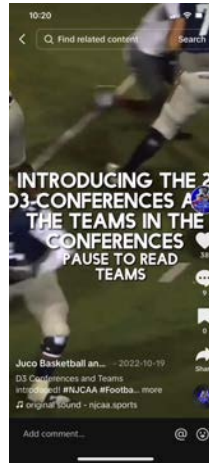


# TikTok Pins: What They Portray

## Pins



1218  
2019 DI teams



1304  
2019 DIII teams

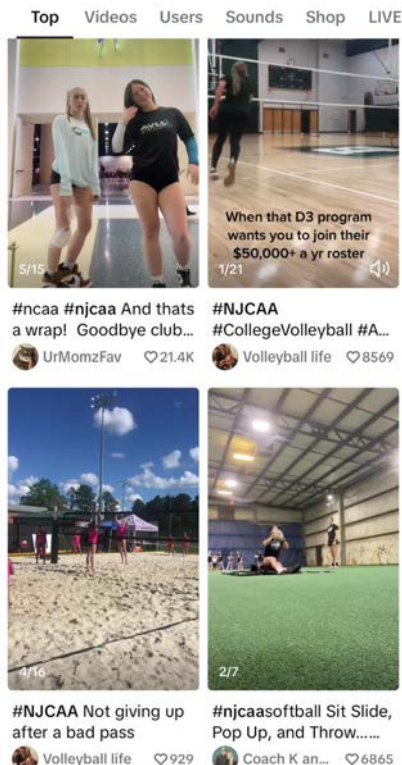
Needs to be updated. With old footage and posts, the relevance of their content drops, and with it, so will their engagement.



# TikTok: Hashtags

None promoted

#NJCAA - organic



Schools, coaches, players  
Much higher engagement than brand  
Beyond football and basketball  
Trends and proving athleticism



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# TikTok: Content Categories

## Standings, Wins, Predictions

**IOWA WESTERN ARE YOUR 2022 D1 CHAMPS!**

FINAL	1	2	3	4	T
(3) Iowa Western (10-2)	17	0	7	7	31
(1) Hutchinson (11-1)	0	0	0	0	0

Box Score Box Score Recap Recap Tickets

Juco Basketball an... · 2022-12-16  
Iowa Western and DuPage are your 2022 Football Champs! #NJCAA #Championship #D1 more  
🎵 Homecoming - @Kanye West

**THE D1 CHAMPIONSHIP IS SET!**

Juco Basketball and... · 2022-12-11  
Who yall got? #NJCAA #Championship #D1  
🎵 original sound - njcaa.sports

**FINAL**

	1	2	3	4	T
(3) Iowa Western (9-2)	9	10	7	7	33
(2) Northwest Mississippi (10-2)	0	3	6		

Watch on **IOWA WESTERN UPSETS NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI TO MOVE TO THE D1 CHAMPIONSHIP**

Juco Basketball and... · 2022-12-5  
Bowl/Playoffs/Championship Week Sunday Scores 🤔 #NJCAA ... more  
🎵 Homecoming - @Kanye West

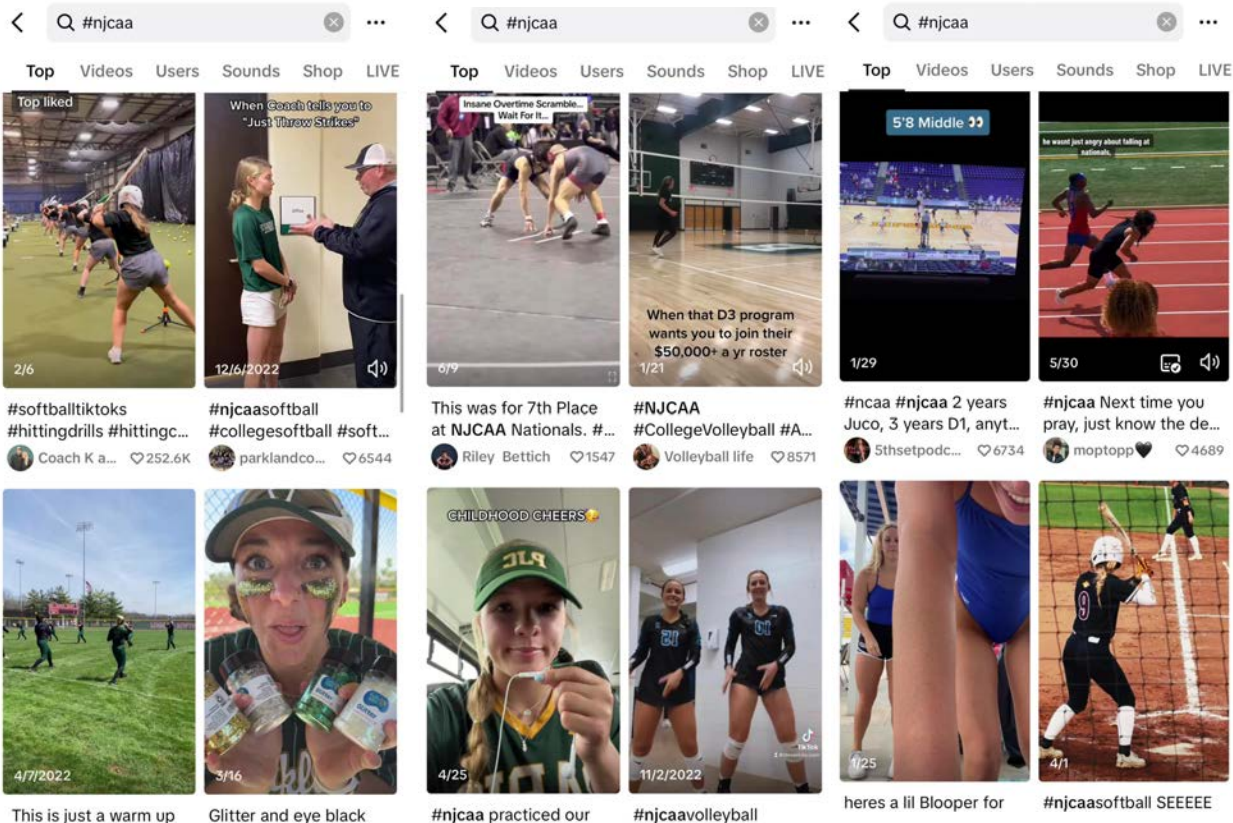
**MY 2022 NJCAA BOWL/R1 PLAYOFFS WEEK PREDICTIONS (FRIDAY GAMES)**

Juco Basketball and... · 2022-12-2  
Sinclari Wool Bowl is today!! Whos taking it? #NJCAA #BowlGam... more  
🎵 original sound - njcaa.sports (Co...





# TikTok: What People Are Saying



Athletes posting

Mostly trends

Followed by  
athleticism +  
standings



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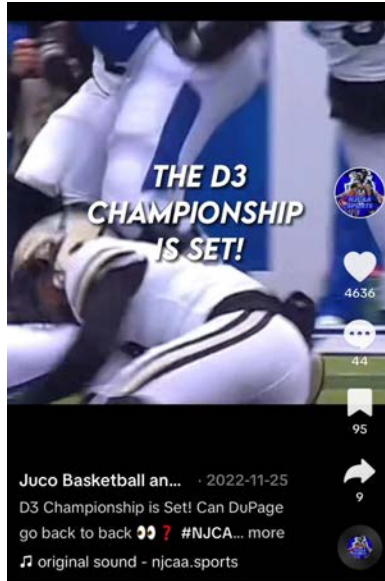
# TikTok: Engagement

## Most watched video

42.8K views

4636 likes

9 shares



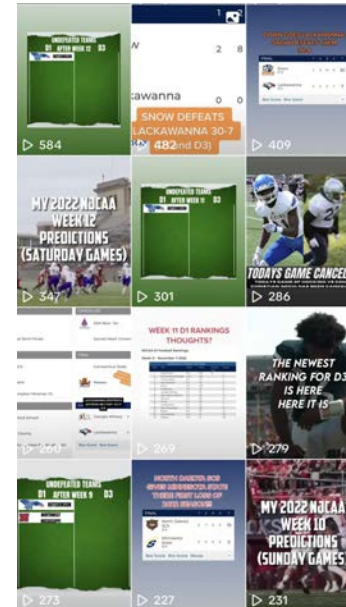
Smash-cut  
produced footage  
of upcoming D3  
championships

## Average video views

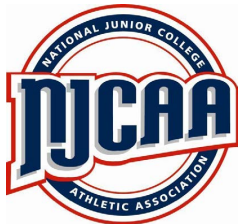
150-400 views

18 likes

0 shares



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# Instagram Presence Overview



One Instagram account that posts across DI, DII and DIII divisions.

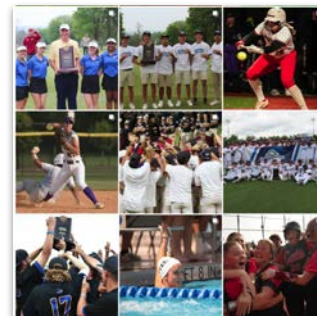
Account uses various sport specific hashtags across posts.

#NJCAAGolf  
#NJCAASoftball  
#NJCAABasketball  
#NJCAABaseball  
Etc.

Threads account not yet claimed.



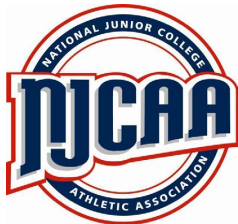
Other NJCAA sport-specific accounts exist. Including soccer, baseball and basketball. However, these accounts don't feel "official" and don't have the quality content that the overarching NJCAA account has.



Content is almost solely celebratory - sharing championship wins, Draft Day picks, new team announcements and various accolades and awards.

Each post ends with a "Link in Bio" CTA that leads to expanded content on their website.

Content is almost always simple static image/carousels. Rarely will post feed videos or reels.



# Instagram Content Themes

 njcaa 📢 Welcome to the *postseason*!

The NJCAA has announced the 2022 #NJCAASoftball DI and DII Championship seedings and first round matchups.


Who will claim the 🏆 in Yuma, AZ and Oxford, AL on May 28?

Full bracket reveals 🔗 Link in bio

 njcaa *Dogpile season*

The NJCAA has announced the 2022 #NJCAABaseball DI, DII, and DIII World Series brackets! Action kicks off on Saturday, May 28.

Full bracket reveals 🔗 Link in bio

 njcaa 🏆 The 2023 #NJCAABaseball DII World Series Champions!


The Heartland Hawks claimed their first national title with an 8-6 victory in the championship game.

Full recap 🔗 Link in bio

6w

 njcaa The NJCAA has announced the 2022 #NJCAAVB Players & Coaches of the Year!


DI Player - Barbara Koehler, Florida SouthWestern  
DII Player - Karagyn Durco, Richard Bland  
DIII Player - Chloe Myers, DuPage  
DI Coach - Thais Baziquetto-Allen, Florida SouthWestern  
DII Coach - Stephanie Champine-Dryden, Richard Bland  
DIII Coach - Tolis Koskinaris, DuPage

 njcaa 📢 95+ former #NJCAABaseball student-athletes heard their names called at the 2023 #MLBDraft!

With more than 350 being selected directly from an #NJCAA member institution.

Full release 🔗 Link in bio

1w

 njcaa #NJCAAmbb in the NCAA Tournament

The NJCAA will be well-represented in #MarchMadness as more than 55 former student-athletes and 40 coaches with association ties across 42 teams will play for a shot at advancing to the final four in Houston.

Full release 🔗 Link in bio

18w

Share news about exciting upcoming games, schedules and events

Share awards and successes of current teams and athletes

Share the accomplishments of past NJCAA student-athletes

 njcaa *The Journey Begins Here*

Often called JUCO, the NJCAA provides the opportunity for student-athletes across the country to compete at the highest levels of their respective sports. The NJCAA serves as a launchpad, reset point, or first opportunity for thousands of student-athletes each year. The NJCAA is not *just* JUCO. The NJCAA *defines* JUCO.

#NJCAADay

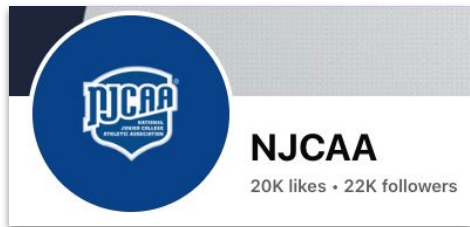
Very rare for them to speak to the history of the NJCAA, NJCAA values or what they can uniquely provide to potential student athletes. Only content on this was a #NJCAADay post last year.



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# Facebook Presence Overview



One Facebook account that posts across DI, DII and DIII divisions.

Overall engagement is minimal across all posts.

NJCAA is not currently running ads.

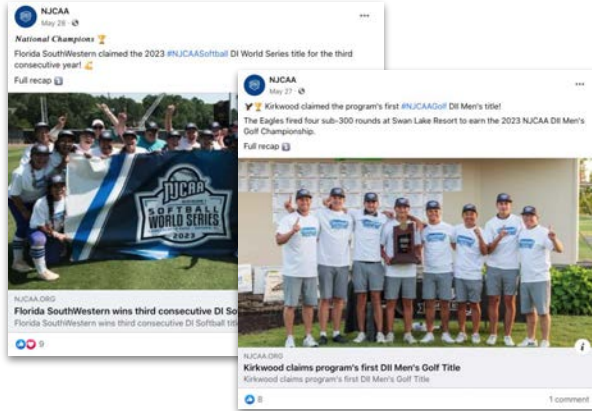
Content is almost solely celebratory - sharing championship wins, Draft Day picks, new team announcements and various accolades and awards. On Facebook they also share various Press Releases.

Content is almost always simple link or image posts.

Approach/content is similar to what they post on Instagram, with the addition of a few organization updates.



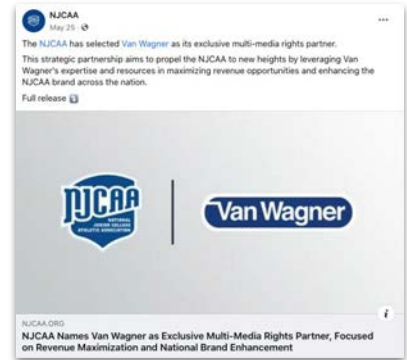
# Facebook Content



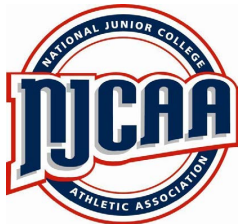
Achievements, accomplishments  
and awards for teams or individual  
students



Information on upcoming  
games and schedules



Press Releases and  
organization updates



# Twitter Presence Overview



Similar to Instagram, there are some sport-specific accounts for NJCAA.

Frequent posting on Twitter



Overall similar content as Facebook, however, updates are more frequent and personalized (i.e. instead of a single announcement that All Star teams have been announced, they will have a separate post for each team)



# Twitter Content Themes



Share awards and successes of current teams and athletes



Real time updates on games and schedules

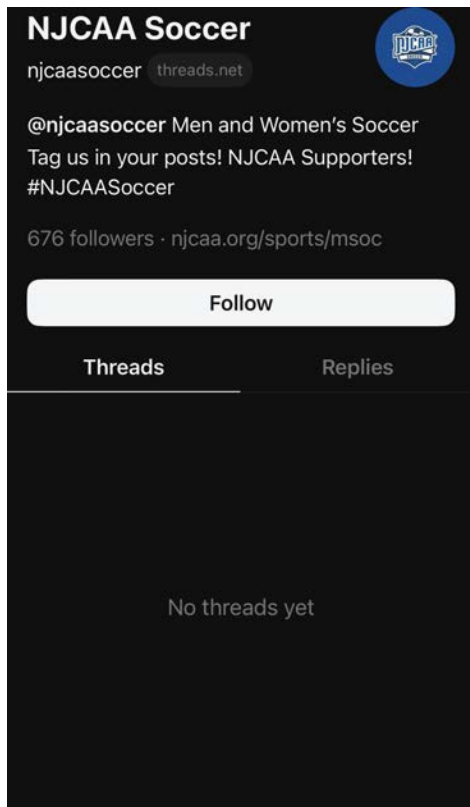


Organizational updates





# Threads



No Threads account.

Soccer NJCAA fan account. No posts.





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# NAIA Landscape Overview

- Strongest content strategy of all associations with clear focus on DEI, student athletic life, eligibility, core values, history, and benefits of being an NAIA athlete
- #NAIA has a dominating organic presence, but their other 'owned' #s need refining. **#FindYourPath** is already 'owned' by a company focusing on motivation and meditation, edging out any NAIA content
- Eligibility and how to participate in recruitment is a predominant theme created specifically for potential student athletes
- Sharing content with links to podcasts and webpages increase long-form engagement

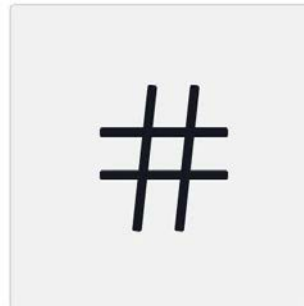




# TikTok Profile



Low follower count  
Extremely low engagement  
305 videos  
Much further reach with organic use of #



**#naia**

325.4M views

Add to Favorites



# TikTok Pins: Diversity and Core Values

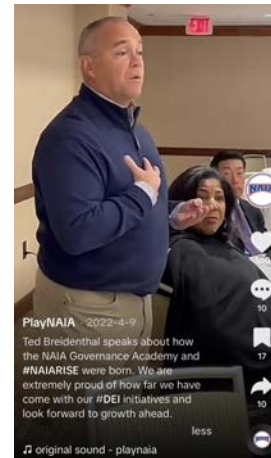
## Pins



37.5K  
Native anthem



16.4K  
NAIA museum  
+ Core values  
(+ trend)

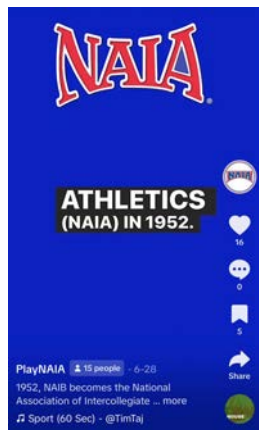


25.3K  
DEI Leadership



# TikTok: Content Categories

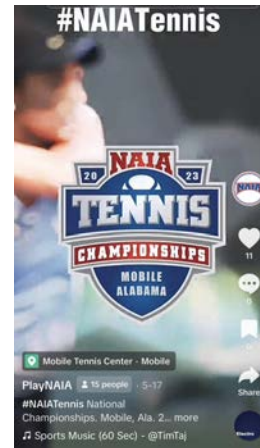
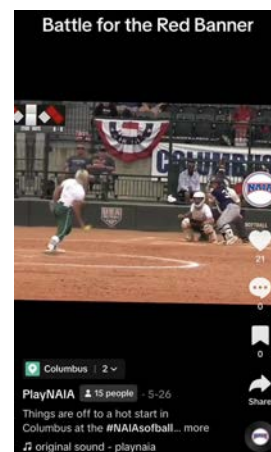
## NAIA History and values



## How to engage in recruitment



## Highlight reels



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# TikTok: Engagement

## Most watched video

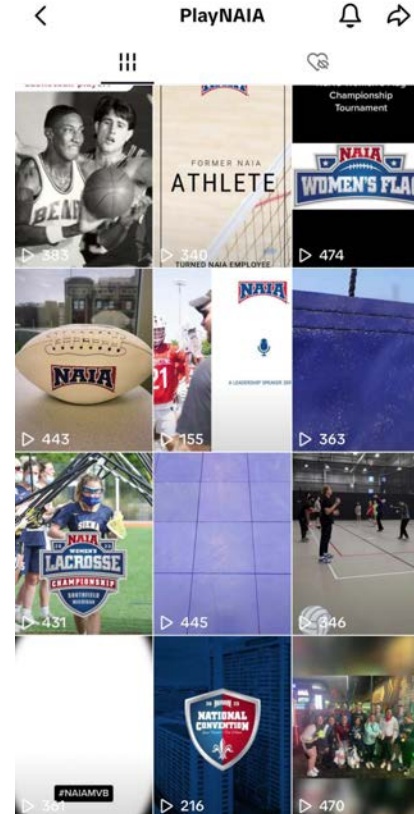
6848 views

45 likes

1 share



Indigenous person appreciation for NAIA's focus on diversity, especially for native tribes



## Average video views

300-500 views

45 likes

1 share

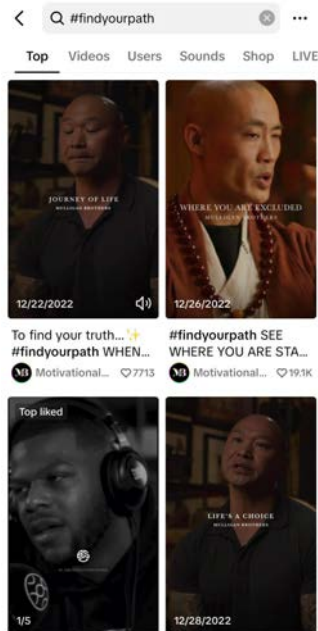


DIVISION II  
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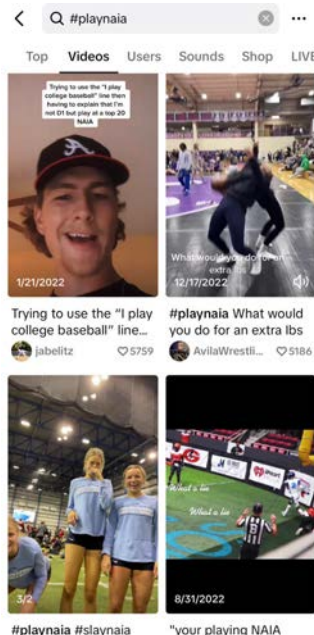
# TikTok: # Categories

## #FindYourPath promoting



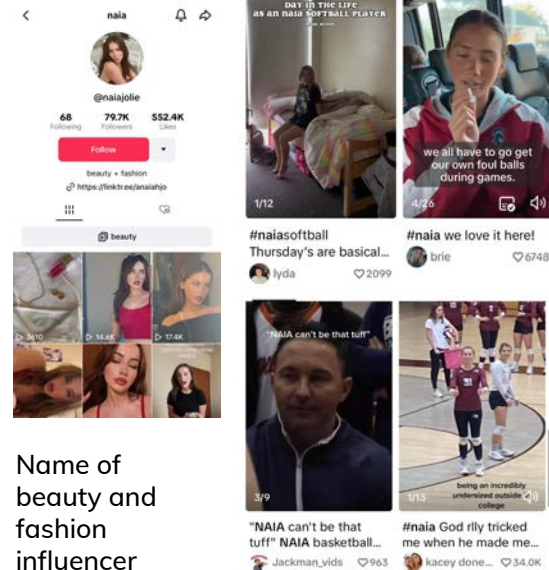
Used for life coaching

## #PlayNAIA promoting



NAIA players promoting NAIA or highlight reels

## #NAIA organic



Name of beauty and fashion influencer

Trends and toughness: proving themselves as athletes





# Instagram Presence Overview



One Instagram account that posts across divisions.

Doesn't seem to be other accounts for individual NAIA sports.

Threads handle claimed, but no activity nor community management has taken place yet.



Broader content mix, sharing posts on current NAIA team wins, NAIA history, recognizable past-NAIA athletes, and education on the benefits NAIA and how to get involved.

Actively posting Reels and video content on their page.

Engagement (comments, likes) isn't great across content, however, Reels get a decent amount of views (usually between 2-5K).



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# Instagram Content Themes



- playnaia Celebrating NAIA HBCU Jarvis Christian College (Texas) #NAIA #hbcupride #hbcutiktok #hbculife #fyp #NAIARISE #diversity #hbcu
- playnaia Celebrating NAIA HBCU Philander Smith College (Ark.) #NAIA #hbcupride #hbcutiktok #hbculife #fyp #NAIARISE #diversity #hbcu
- playnaia 1948, Clarence Walker broke the color barrier by becoming the first African-American #studentathlete to play in a #collegebasketball national championship at #municipalauditorium KCMO. #NAIA #PlayNAIA 🏀

Eligibility Center  
Classroom content  
series shares tips on  
eligibility and  
educational info about  
joining the NAIA

NAIA History content  
series shares interesting  
and unique facts about  
the history of NAIA,  
how it started, and how  
it's evolved over the  
years

Coverage of current  
games, tournaments,  
big wins etc. in the  
NAIA

Large focus on overall  
NAIA diversity and  
HBCUs



# Instagram Content Themes



playnaia The men's volleyball teams had the chance to put on a skills clinic with @canplay\_org before they started play in the tournament.



playnaia Kicking off Vista #NAIABaseball World Series with a kids clinic with the top 10 #collegebaseball team from the #NAIA



playnaia Making sure our student-athletes feel like they belong, is at the forefront of NAIA athletics.

Listen to the many ways our institutions are impacting how student-athletes feel about their institution and the ways in which we make them feel like they belong.

Link in bio!

#ExperienceNAIA #NAIARISE #DEI

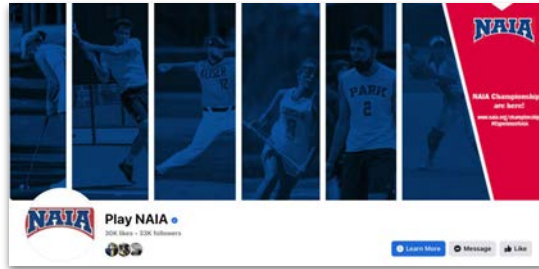
Share content about NAIA values and community involvement



DIVISION II  
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# Facebook Presence Overview



One Facebook account for all NAIA.

Overall content gets minimal engagement.

NAIA is not currently running ads.

Consists of simple image and link posts focused on updates and background of the organization and educational and inspirational information on NAIA and their unique offerings and values that future students and faculty can expect.

Content (topics and formats) feels much different from what they are sharing on Instagram.



# Facebook Content Themes



Share 'Partner Connect' resources and services that they provide to their student athletes



Share links to podcast episodes (Return on Athletics, Senior Woman Leader podcasts)



Share organizational and personnel updates



Share stories and background on NAIA values and community efforts



# Twitter Presence Overview

Two active Twitter accounts. NAIA seems to be about NAIA news, organizational updates and current happenings. Whereas, PlayNAIA (The NAIA Eligibility Center) seems to be directed at potential recruits with content on eligibility and the benefits of being a NAIA athlete.

This seems to be the only one of their platforms with two separate accounts.



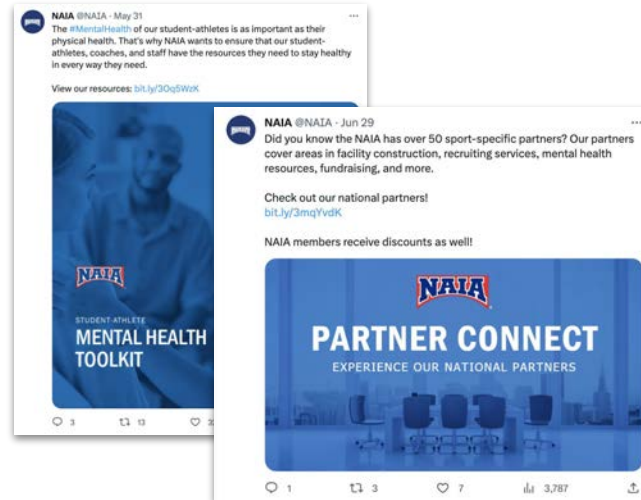
This is where their website links out.



# Twitter Content Themes



Content releases, including podcasts, white papers  
Podcast releases (published with more frequency recently)



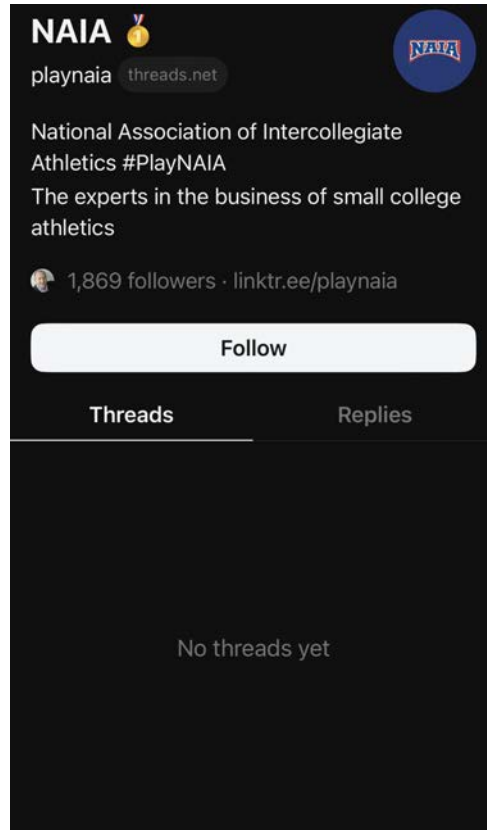
Partnerships and benefits aimed at recruitment



1:1 interviews with athletes and coaches around key wins.



# Threads



Claimed handle but not yet verified. No posts.

# Google Trends





NCAA

Search term



NJCAA

Search term



NAIA

Search term

+ Add comparison

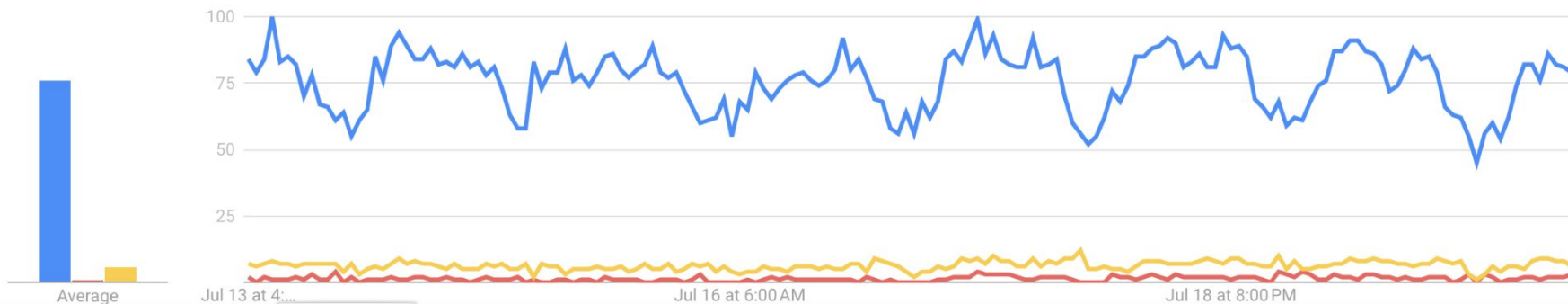
United States ▼

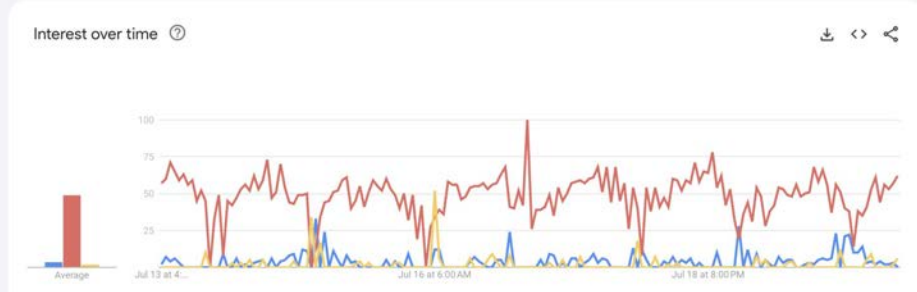
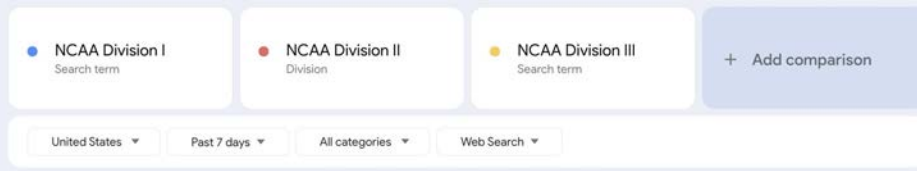
Past 7 days ▼

All categories ▼

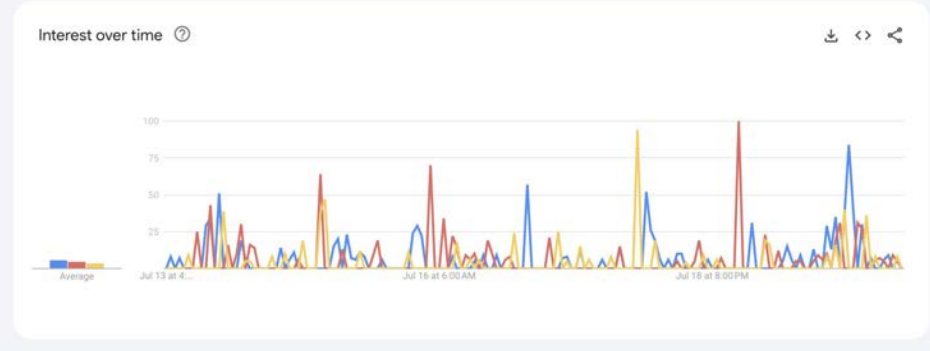
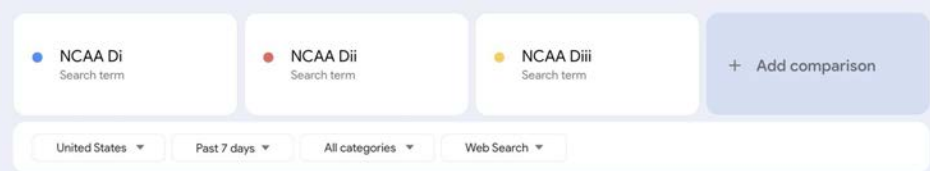
Web Search ▼

Interest over time ?

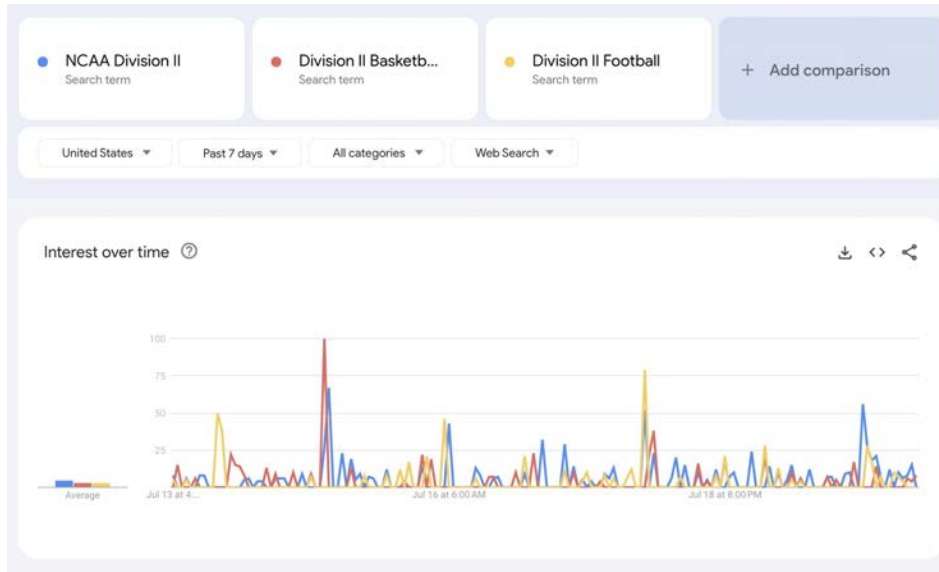




When searching by “Division...” DII has many more searches than DI and DIII



When searching by “D...” all divisions are searched with relative similarity



While DII has a slight edge in search frequency over specific DII sports, the difference is negligible. When thinking about all distributed content, it's best to create a mix of these terms to point all to one landing page/content hub to ensure we're gaining traffic from all search terms.



# Key Takeaways & Considerations

Other NCAA Divisions, and NJCAA, are modeling NCAA DI's content, as it's perceived as setting the bar. NAIA and NJCAA start to break that content formula, focusing more on students and reflecting the cultures of each institution.

## Future Exploration Territories & Considerations:

### Audience:

---

Should we consider media as a secondary audience to get additional reach to student athletes looking at DII schools? If so, create a secondary content strategy with that objective in mind.

Waiting on qual/quant to show us what topics matter most to them as well as on which platforms. However, DII could do well to pick up on TT and IG trends to hopefully land in our student audience's feeds. Consider paid, targeted posts.

### School/Sport Balance:

---

NCAA DIII has started showing a different face of student athletes. But, is anyone talking about the day-to-day outside of high-profile games?

Content featuring individual athletes or programs are carried to higher engagement levels by fans. Consider leveraging takeovers to show the 'lifestyle' side of being a DII student athlete. Consider a multiple-topic content series (ex: "top ten questions about student life", "top 11 favorite things about being a DII athlete) similar to Vogue's 73 questions series), etc.





# Thank You





# NCAA DII Qualitative Topline Report

August 2, 2023



# What's Included

- ① Background + Methodology
- ② Key Findings: All Audiences
- ③ Key Findings: By Audience  
(prospect, influencer, non-user)
- ④ Implications on Quant Survey
- ⑤ Next Steps



---

①

# Background + Methodology



# What Led Us Here

NCAA DII wanted to better understand their audience's needs, wants and priorities during the decision making process for potential collegiate student-athletes, as well as determine how they are most apt to interact with our brand and what content they find most influential leading to a stronger communication and media plan supporting "Make It Yours" in select channels.

The final output from the qualitative phase will also help define the scope and hypotheses for the quantitative study and ensure it's focused on the right audience, attitudes, needs, behaviors and brand perception attributes.



# Who we talked to

Barkley engaged audiences using an online bulletin board that included 2 days of activities and discussion lasting 45 minutes each day for a total of 90 minutes. We had three (3) distinct groups.

1. A prospect group among 16, 17, and 18 year olds high schoolers who are considering competing in, or being recruited to compete in their respective sport at the collegiate level.
2. An influencer group among guidance counselors, parents/legal guardians, coaches, athletic trainers OR strength and conditioning trainers at the high school varsity OR junior varsity level OR competitive sports teams, defined by holding tryouts, competing in tournaments, and traveling for increased competition.
3. A non user group among students that graduated from high school (ages 18-25) and was recruited to compete at the NCAA DII level but ultimately chose a different path, either DI, DIII, NAIA, NJCAA, collegiate club sport, intramurals or decided to no longer compete after high school.



# Meet Our Participants



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# Key Findings: All Audiences

# Summary: All Audiences

- 1 “Make it yours” definitely feels like the right message for prospects and influencers based on generally quite positive perceptions of DII and aspirations for the ideal, “perfect fit” college experience.
- 2 There’s opportunity to sharpen the distinction with DI, to make clear that DII isn’t just second best, but an intentionally different and better integrated college experience.
- 3 Being a college athletic prospect is intimidating and requires quickly learning a bit of savvy and self-awareness. There may be an opportunity for DII to appeal to prospects’ sense of wisdom, savvy, and trueness to themselves.
- 4 Influencers strive to provide neutral advice but seem generally eager to advocate for DII. Could be opportunity to equip them to sell the benefits of DII in a way that feels objective.



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# Key Findings: Prospects

# Prospects are saying the things we'd hope they'd say about DII

Submit an image that represents DII and tell us why you chose it



"I chose this image because it shows that in Division 2 sports, people can make what they want to make their sport."



"I chose this image because DII schools are smaller but still provide great experiences."



"I chose this because Wingate is a school not too far from me, and I could only wish for that opportunity to have been there in that National Championship. Although D1 and D2 have their differences, D2 schools are a great place to go."



"The competition in division 2 is still extremely intense, but as an athlete, you are usually given a bit more overall balance than you would at a division 1 school."



"I chose this image because I think DII athletes are the best student athletes. They are competitive sports players, but who also care about school and their future more. The coaches and team atmosphere is less pressure and more lenient with free time."

# “Make it yours” feels aligned with how prospects describe DII

## Finding:

- DII exists in a sweet spot where athletic opportunity, academics, and social opportunity can all be high quality without compromising a student-athlete’s sense of agency or potential.

## Implication:

We have a unique proposition for all but those who know they've prioritized athletics before all other considerations (i.e. ambitions of a career in the sport).

*“even if an athlete does not go D1, success can still be found in DII.”*

*“I view D2 sort of like D1's little brother. It's still legit high quality competition, but you're clearly an inferior second choice. However, once you hit D3 I sort of feel like that's the threshold between real college sports, and just like something you do for fun.”*

*“The most compelling reason to compete at the NCAA DII level is the great balance of athletics and academics.”*

*“The most compelling reason to compete at the DII level is it is competitive but also gives you more freedom.” -Lauren S*





# It's hard work being a recruit, they must quickly learn savvy self-awareness

## Finding:

- Being a recruit requires savvy, knowing how to separate what you're being told from your own conclusions. Prospects warn their younger selves not to be overly influenced by others, to get comfortable listening to their gut.

## Implication:

There could be advantage in appealing to prospects' sense of wisdom, savvy, and trueness to themselves.

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*"When you're visiting campus, don't ask the players in your sport. Ask other athletes, they'll tell you the truth because they have nothing to lose. The athletes in your sport have to be nice to you, they're told by their coaches to be nice to you. But a random girl in the lockerroom prob has a friend on the basketball team who knows a little bit of the insight on what goes on at practice. I appreciated that advice, got a couple of great insights from it."*

*"Coaches will say stuff they don't mean. Listen to what they don't say."*



# Prospects seek balance in their college experience and in their approach to the choice

## Finding:

- Prospects seeking the right school for them are trying to balance their own athletic ambition with long term perspective and a simple gut feeling on campus.

## Implication:

We may be able to tailor messaging such that these 3 decision elements are tuned differently for different audiences.

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*"The ideal college experience looks like I am learning who I am and improving all of my foundational skills. I also want to be able to have lots of friends and to be able to just have fun in college."*

*"A great college atmosphere and learn life lessons from my experiences on and off the field to help me develop in to a man, husband, and father."*

*"My ideal college experience. if i was to go to college for sports that would be a great opportunity, one i get to play the sport i love at the next level. two would be me getting to meet new friends in college and getting to experience the life of being in college. and three just being able to have fun and also doing what i love."*

*"the type of schools that fit me are schools that have a culture and a meaning behind it"*

*"I would say the ideal college experience is getting everything done while also having fun, finding a good balance."*



# Qual shows a potential disparity between influencer vs prospect thoughts on the merits of social media

## Finding:

Influencers tend to be anti-social media, but prospects tell us it's the essential window into the programs they're considering and a platform to communicate with coaches.

## Implication:

Are there moments when they're communicating or awaiting a response to build momentum for DI or present an alternative to DI? Can we help guide influencers on effective use of social?

### Influencers

*"I would not recommend social media platforms. I think that they are built to romanticize everything."*

*"I do not use my personal social media account to follow schools."*

*"From my perspective, most social media platforms do nothing to add to a potential college athletes experience."*

*"I do not recommend social media platforms AT ALL!!"*

*"I tend to tell my girls to stay off social media."*

### Prospects

*"I plan on using instagram to upload my main sport highlights."*

*"Twitter has been good to connect with coaches. YouTube has also allowed for video sharing as well as Instagram."*

*"I primarily use twitter to connect with coaches."*

*"Twitter is the hotbed for college coaches, it allows you to easily post your clips, pictures, highlights and more to a stream that will inevitably be seen by your targeted audience, in this case college coaches. Instagram tells a more personal tale of yourself, which college coaches use to check kind of who you are as a person."*



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# Key Findings: Non-User

# Non-Users are less enthusiastic about DII, but still mostly positive, seeing it as a strong second to D1 and clearly superior to all other divisions.

Submit an image that represents DII and tell us why you chose it

← less positive   more positive →



I picked this picture because most of d2 players are older adult that are trying to get back into the sport or looking for a team to play. It is also consisting of older adult going to their first college at a later age.



I chose this one because while it looks nice, it's nothing that much better than DIII or high school--not really a fruitful comparison to DI.



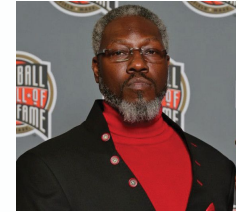
Anything below D1 just reminds me of small town atmosphere. Most are in smaller towns and everything that comes with it is just smaller. Smaller gyms, smaller crowds, smaller budgets, etc.



This logo represents D2 because like laliga they have some good teams, but they also have some bad teams and you need to find a good fit for yourself.



I chose a picture of robin just because I view D2 sort of like D1's little brother. It's still legit high quality competition, but you're clearly an inferior second choice. However, once you hit D3 I sort of feel like that's the threshold between real college sports, and just like something you do for fun.



Wallace is the first undrafted player to ever be selected to the Basketball HOF. He is a representation that even if an athlete does not go D1, success can still be found.



I chose this image because it shows how DII colleges still have really nice facilities, but there is still a difference and it can be seen. Both this and the DI image are championships, and it can be seen how DII isn't on as near of a big stage as DI colleges.

# Non-users aren't negative about DII, they just see it as a fallback

## Finding:

- For non-users, DII is clearly the next best thing to DI, which is good, but also represents a hard “plan B” ceiling with this audience.

## Implication:

There's work to be done with this audience distinguishing DII from DI, making DII a difference in kind rather than degree. This might open some non-user prospects to more fully considering DII as an option for them rather than a fallback.

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*“I chose a picture or robin just because I view D2 sort of like D1's little brother. It's still legit high quality competition, but you're clearly an inferior second choice. However, once you hit D3 I sort of feel like that's the threshold between real college sports, and just like something you do for fun.”*



Some have the perception that selecting from DII schools requires you to be even more discriminating.

### **Finding:**

- There's perceived to be a wider range of experiences across DII - from the perfect fit to something that might escape DI-level scrutiny, so prospects need to be especially thoughtful in their approach.

### **Implication:**

There may be benefits in helping prospects navigate the field of DII options, making an asset of the breadth as a better way to find the “perfect for me” experience.

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*“This logo represents D2 because like LaLiga they have some good teams, but they also have some bad teams and you need to find a good fit for yourself.” -Tyler*



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# Key Findings: Influencers



# Qual suggests that influencers are primed to be DII advocates

Submit an image that represents DII and tell us why you chose it



"D2 is a hidden gem"



"I picked this photo to represent how many D2 schools there truly are. A lot of times my student athletes want to go to a D1 school because that is what you grow up watching. But, I always tell them there are so many other options."



"I choose his image because to me NCAA D2 is more about actually being a student and getting a college degree. Most of the athletes that I know that went to a D2 program went because they couldn't qualify for D1 sports program."

# Influencers are committed to helping student-athletes own their own decision vs pushing them in one direction or another

## Finding:

- Influencers are trying to help kids make the biggest decision of their lives to this point, and to do that they have to leave it to the kids vs just sharing their own opinions.

*"I try not to push kids to certain college and tell them to take all 5 of their official visit and then way the pros and cons of each school that they visited."*

*"The student-athletes I have spoken with that had the most positive experiences seemed to be situated around "the best fit for them". Whether it was a small school atmosphere that they were used to or going totally against the grain to experience the entire college experience of a large school, "fit" is often a term that is used by those who had great experiences."*

*"I am simply a guide. I point out the pros and cons. This is a decision that should be completely made by the student and his/her family."*

## Implication:

**Branding DII as the division to take the college athlete experience and "make it yours" feels generally aligned with the influence that influencers are trying to have.**

*"I listen to what the students want in a program and university and try to guide them in the direction that I feel would best suit them emotionally, academically, athletically, and financially. I can open their eyes to universities and programs that they may have not known existed."*

*"When athletes come to me and they are trying to figure out what is the next step after high school. I usually schedule a time where it can just be me and the student. I ask them about what they want out of the next level. I lay out what I think and what I have learned from the many years and many athletes that I have seen. Usually my role is just trying to give them an idea of what to expect and help them figure out if it truly is something that they want."*



However, they also have pretty strong opinions about what's best, and those opinions seem to work in DII's favor

### Finding:

- Even though they strive to help students come to their own decision, there seems to be a mass of preference among influencers for a better integrated college/athletic experience than DI provides.

*"The type of schools I feel are best for the experience are smaller schools. These larger D1 schools offer lots of perks and whistles, but in the long run do they really and sincerely care about my student athlete? I have found that many students find success in smaller NAIA schools, D2 or even D3 schools. The pressures are not as strong and expectations are still there to be the best, but with some charisma and thought toward the well being of the individual."*

*"I think a school that values athletics as an integral part of the student-athlete's full college experience would best serve them."*

### Implication:

There may be a great deal of influencers who want to tout the advantages of the DII experience if we can equip them to do it without feeling like they're being subjective.

*"I think small private schools have the best chance at building a support system for student athletes. Class sizes are smaller, and they are able to get more attention from professors and their peers. They will also be able to FEEL cared for, instead of feeling like they are "just another number" in a big lecture hall or campus."*

*"I feel DII can be a hidden gem for so many athletes but they choose to seek the perceived "riches" of DI"*

*"I think the best experience for college athletics happens at the small school level D3- NAIA. The further out of state the better."*



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# Implications to Quant Survey

# Quant Implications

Key Qual Finding	Areas to Probe in Quant	Notes
Make it Yours resonates due for desire for customized experience--a unique path based on the unique student.	Importance of customizing the experience/balance of activities Not having the experience scripted--having more control and freedom	Prospects
Prospects seek balance in their decision making	Importance of balance--finding one's own definition of balance. Finding highest level of competition that best fits them. Not having regrets about one's decision. Professional athlete vs other career focus.	Prospects
Being a recruit takes effort and self-awareness	Importance of being confident in decision, taking in feedback/advice from others	Prospects
Social media is an essential comms tool	How do recruits use social media? What stages? For what information? Is it trusted? What useful info does it provide?	Prospects
Non-users aren't negative about DII, they just see it as a fallback	What are the positive perceptions of DII? How can DII be positioned as a difference in degree vs kind of experience? How can D2 feel "intimate" but also high-quality? Only difference is level of competition not larger facilities and quality of experience. Is it always viewed as a fallback? What makes it a top choice? For whom is it a top choice.	Non-users
Some have the perception that selecting from DII schools requires you to be even more discriminating.	Wider range of experiences means recruit needs to be more judicious in making choices (see self-awareness above)	Non-users
Commitment to letting recruits make their own decisions	Is this true? What pressure to recruits feel from coaches/trainers and parents? What pressures make program evaluation harder? What do recruits wish they could tell parents/coaches? Do influencers value balance as much as prospects?	Influencers
Influencers see the benefit of balance	Is this communicated to recruits? Do influencers think about /talk about balance differently?	Influencers



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# Next Steps

# Next Steps/ Timing

<b>Tuesday 8/8</b>	<b>NCAA to share feedback &amp; questions</b>
w/o 8/7	Barkley to incorporate NCAA Feedback to Quant Survey
w/o 8/14	Barkley x NCAA to review R1 Quant survey
8/18	NCAA provide final feedback
8/22	Barkley to finalize survey based on NCAA feedback & program/test survey
<b>8/24 - 9/14</b>	<b>Quant Survey live</b>
9/15 - 9/29	Data cleaning, tabbing, analysis, report creation
10/6	NCAA Quant Report Review



A background image showing a group of people's hands stacked on top of each other in a huddle, suggesting teamwork and unity. The hands are of various skin tones, and some are wearing athletic gear like a blue watch and a black wristband. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the hands.

# **NCAA SPORTS WAGERING INTEGRITY INITIATIVES – DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**



# Post PASPA Background

- ▶ Post PASPA Repeal (2018) the BOG formed the Ad-Hoc Subcommittee on Sports Wagering which identified the following focus areas relative to sports wagering:

- ▶ Broad Focus Areas:

- Protecting Student-Athlete Health and Well-Being.
- Protecting the Integrity of NCAA Competition.

- ▶ Targeted Focus Areas

- Education and Awareness
- Integrity Services
- Research
- NCAA Legislation and Policy
- Officiating
- Political Landscape (State and Federal Laws)



# Current Commercial Landscape

- ▶ Legal sportsbooks handled \$93 Billion in bets in 2022, a 61% increase from 2021.
- ▶ AGA estimated 68 Million Americans wagered \$15.5 Billion on 2023 DI Men's Basketball Championship.
- ▶ Significant increases in markets offering handle in other championships:
  - ▶ DII Markets – Football and Volleyball
- ▶ 2023 AGA updated marketing code to limit sportsbook – institution sponsorships.

# Integrity and Sports Betting Issues

- ▶ Recent news around collegiate sports betting issues raises awareness and concerns.
- ▶ Increase in SAR cases related to sports wagering.
- ▶ Increasing number of enforcement cases related to sports wagering.
- ▶ Types of issues NCAA enforcement currently investigating:
  - ▶ Coach betting on own school but different sport;
  - ▶ Alleged inside information violations;
  - ▶ Student-athlete solicited by third-party to match-fix;
  - ▶ And multiple cases involving coaches/administrators engaged in sports betting;
  - ▶ DII International Tennis Student-Athletes.

# Key Initiatives Implemented

- ▶ Education: Epic Risk Management provides in-person lived experience problem gambling education to approximately 75 institutions /10,000 student-athletes per year.
  - ▶ Demand increased two-fold in early May 2023.
- ▶ Integrity Services:
  - ▶ Sportradar monitors 13,000 contests annually;
  - ▶ Background screening of 19,000 officials.
- ▶ Relationships: Conducted outreach to all legalized State Gaming Commissions as well as other key stakeholders in the industry (e.g. law enforcement, pro-leagues, vendors, sportsbooks, membership groups).
- ▶ Mental Health: SSI Mental Health Advisory Group recently convened to discuss mental health best practices, including social media concerns.
- ▶ Surveys:
  - ▶ NCAA initiated a market study to gather baseline data on sports betting behaviors amongst young people aged 18-22.
  - ▶ Recently completed a survey of compliance administrators to discuss needs.
- ▶ DI SAR Guideline Updates

# Key Initiatives Planned / Considered

- ▶ Comprehensive national sports wagering study. (Summer, 2023 – Fall, 2024)
- ▶ Development of additional online educational resources. (Fall, 2023)
- ▶ Official anti-match fixing education. (Summer-Fall, 2023)
- ▶ State by State advocacy. (Fall, 2023)
- ▶ Development of institutional guide for sports wagering infrastructure. (Convention, 2024)
- ▶ Under Consideration – Many ideas including:
  - ▶ Prohibited Bettors
  - ▶ Social Media Anti-Harassment Technology
  - ▶ Detailed Comms Strategy
  - ▶ Additional Education (NFHS)
  - ▶ Rules Revisions

# Regulatory Framework – Collegiate Sports Betting Ecosystem

## Multilayered systems are best to protect student athletes and competition

### NCAA National Office

- Leadership
- Education
- Integrity Monitoring
- Research
- Mental Health Resources

### Sportsbooks

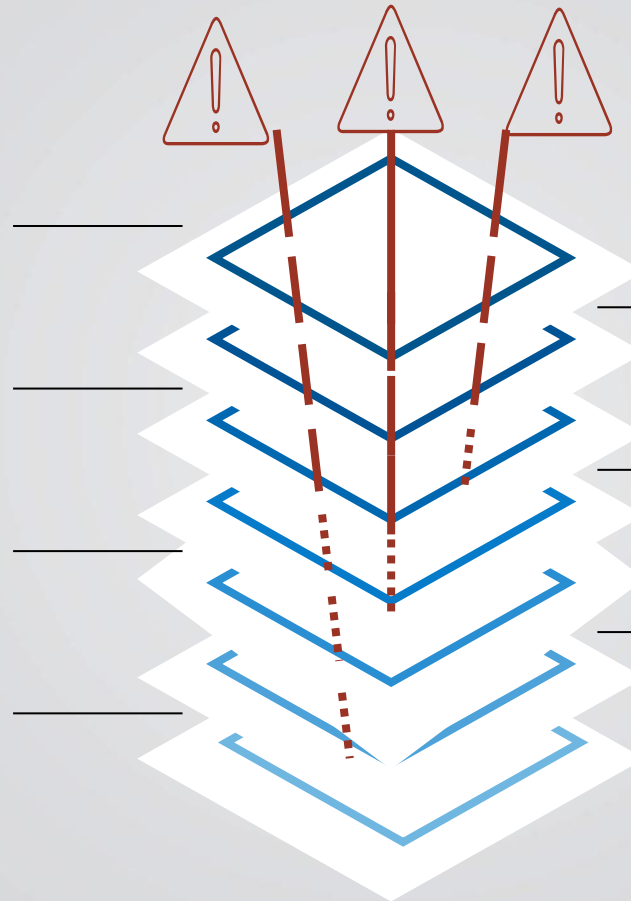
- Monitor bettors (KYC)
- Monitor location of bets places
- Responsible advertising

### Law Enforcement

- Investigate integrity concerns
- Investigate harassment issues
- Education

### Coaches, Teammates, Trainers, etc

- Culture of mutual accountability
- See Something, Say Something



### Outside Monitoring

- 3<sup>rd</sup> parties flag suspicious activity (e.g. large bet on low-interest event)
- Geofencing

### State Gaming Commissions / Regulators

- Mutual cooperation
- Adjust laws and regulations
- Regulate betting market offerings
- Leverage technology solutions

### Member Institutions & Conferences

- Emphasize importance of topic
- Engage campus leaders
- Education and awareness
- Relationship building
- Investigate and report suspicious activity

# Takeaways

- ▶ AD/Conference Considerations:
  - ▶ Engage Institutional Leaders on Topic (not just Athletics issue)
  - ▶ Support Education and Awareness (not just NCAA rules issue)
  - ▶ Active Participant in Sports Wagering Ecosystem
    - Relationship Building
    - Integrity Summits / Conferences
  - ▶ More than a Division I Issue
- ▶ How can national office best support the conference and institutions in this area?
- ▶ NCAA Contacts:
  - ▶ Clint Hangebrauck – [changebrauck@ncaa.org](mailto:changebrauck@ncaa.org); 317.966.6484
  - ▶ Mark Hicks – [mhicks@ncaa.org](mailto:mhicks@ncaa.org); – 317.966.6445





## Quarterly Report

### NCAA Division II

### October 2023

- **Academic All-America® Awards Program Update:** The CSC Academic All-America awards program will have stronger eligibility criteria, new timing for nominations and a reduction in the number of student-athletes on the national ballot when nominations open in early November. Based on member survey data and input from CSC's Executive Board of Directors, a working group submitted four eligibility recommendations, which were approved by the Board and will be communicated to CSC members and external program stakeholders in early October. Student-athlete nominations for 2023-24 will begin in the fall for men's and women's soccer (November 7), women's volleyball (November 28) and football (December 5). The master calendar will be available at the beginning of October on the CSC website. [Academic All-America Information](#)
- **Third CSC Diversity and Inclusion Fellowship Cohort Announced:** CSC introduced its third class of participants for the Diversity and Inclusion Fellowship, in partnership with the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. Members will study issues surrounding diversity, equity and inclusion in athletics communications and within college athletics overall during the academic year. The theme for this class is "Championing an Inclusive Culture." The program begins this month and culminates at the association's 2024 convention in Las Vegas — #CSCUnite24 — where the fellows will be recognized and participate in D&I programming. Division II participants include Jaelynn Ellison, William Jewell College, Assistant Athletics Director for Communication/Senior Woman Administrator; Spencer Honda, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Sports Information Director; Alex King, University of Mount Olive, Director of Athletic Communications; Jose Montoya, Eastern New Mexico University, Assistant Athletic Director - Marketing and Communications; Nolan Schmidt, MSU Moorhead, Assistant Athletics Director for Media/Public Relations, and Airis Thomas, Winston-Salem State University, Sports Information Director. [Story Link](#)
- **CSC Membership Purchases and Renewals Through September:** CSC membership renewals for 2023-24 opened in July. Currently, 423 Division II members represent 170 schools and eight conferences. Those numbers compare to 400 members from 177 schools and 11 conferences at the end of September 2022. The rates increase by 25 percent beginning October 1. [Membership Information](#)

NCAA Government Relations Update  
October 2023

**FEDERAL ISSUES**

**Congressional Overview**

Following the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress' summer recess, Members of the U.S Senate and House of Representatives have worked to address issues including funding the government and avoiding a government shutdown, impeachment inquiries, and re-authorization of the Federal Aviation Administration, among other things. While Congress now begins the process of selecting a new Speaker of the House following the ouster of former Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), attention is expected to shift to the 2024 Presidential election and re-election campaigns for many Members of Congress.

**Name, Image and Likeness**

On July 20, Sens. Booker (D-NJ), Blumenthal (D-CT) and Moran (R-KS) [released a discussion draft](#) of the *College Athletes Protection & Compensation Act*. This legislation contains two of the Association's legislative priorities and would set a national NIL policy, preempt state laws, create an NIL database for transparency and grant the NCAA authority to create rules and enforce provisions of the Act.

On July 25, Sens. Manchin (D-WV) and Tuberville (R-AL) [introduced](#) the *PASS Act*. This bill includes two of the Association's legislative priorities and would, among other things, preempt state law and provide protections around NIL activity, while requiring student-athletes to complete their first 3 years of academic eligibility before being allowed to transfer. This legislation was referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation on July 25, and has not been considered since this time.

On July 26, Sen. Murphy (D-CT) and Rep. Trahan (D-MA) [reintroduced](#) the *College Athlete Economic Freedom Act*. This legislation includes two of the Association's legislative priorities and would allow international student-athletes to capitalize on NIL and require institutions and associations to obtain a group license from athletes in order to use their NIL rights in media deals and other promotions, among other things. This bill was referred to the respective House and Senate committees on July 26, and has not been considered since this time.

On August 2, Sen. Cruz (R-TX) [shared a discussion draft](#) of NIL legislation which includes all four of the Association's legislative priorities and would create a national database for NIL deals, preempt state NIL laws, state that student-athletes are not employees at their institutions, and grant the NCAA liability protection from select complaints.

On September 4, an updated [discussion draft](#) from Rep. Bilirakis's (R-FL) *FAIR College Sports Act* was publicly released. This legislation includes two of the Association's legislative priorities and would, among other things, preempt state NIL laws, protect student-athletes' rights to NIL,

prohibit recruiting inducements and “pay-for-play”, and require transparency and registration for athlete agents, boosters and collectives, among other things.

On September 20, the House of Representatives Committee on Small Business hosted a hearing titled, “[Athletes and Innovators: Analyzing NIL’s Impact on Entrepreneurial Collegiate Athletes](#),” which featured testimony from Jeremiah Donati (AD, Texas Christian University), Gene Smith (AD, Ohio State University), Gino Torretta (former student-athlete, University of Miami) and Maddie Salamone (Vice President, College Football Players’ Association).

### **Transgender Athlete Participation**

On July 27, the House Judiciary Committee hosted a hearing titled, “[The Dangers and Due Process Violations of ‘Gender Affirming Care’](#),” featuring testimony from Paula Scanlan (former student-athlete, University of Pennsylvania), Chloe Cole (Detransitioner, Advocate), Jennifer Bauwens, Ph.D. (Family Research Counselor, Center for Family Studies), May Mailman (Senior Legal Fellow, Independent Women’s Law Center), Myriam Reynolds (Professional Counselor) and Shannon Minter (Legal Director, National Center for Lesbian Rights). During this hearing, GOP Members of Congress expressed concerns around transgender athlete participation in sports, and Rep. Jordan (R-OH) questioned whether the NCAA’s policy appropriately addressed transgender athlete participation in sports.

### **Transfers**

On August 9, the Association [received a letter](#) from Sen. Rubio (R-FL) regarding the denial of a hardship waiver by a Florida State University student-athlete. The NCAA sent a respond to Sen. Rubio on August 18. The Association [received a letter](#) from Florida’s congressional delegation regarding the same student-athlete on August 17, and sent a response on August 30.

### **NCAA Enforcement**

On September 14, Reps. Kustoff (R-TN), Harder (D-CA) and Owens (R-UT) [reintroduced](#) the *NCAA Accountability Act*. This legislation attempts to establish due process protections for universities and individuals under investigation by the NCAA, among other things. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce on September 14, and has not been considered since this time.

### **Health and Safety**

On September 26, Rep. DeSaulnier (D-CA) [reintroduced](#) the *Protecting Student Athletes from Concussions Act*, legislation which was supported by the NCAA and would promote awareness of sports-related concussions and develop comprehensive, evidence-based strategies to respond to concussions. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and has not been considered since this time.

Additionally, on September 27, Rep. Carl (R-AL) reintroduced a [resolution](#), which was endorsed by the NCAA and would designate September 30, 2023, through October 7, 2023, as National Student Athlete Mental Health Week.

On September 28, Sens. Boozman (R-AR) and Booker (D-NJ) [introduced](#) the *Targeting Emotional and Mental Stability (TEAMS) Act*, legislation which the NCAA supported, and which would allow school-based initiatives supporting the mental health needs of college athletes to be eligible for the Garrett Lee Smith (GLS) Campus Suicide Prevention Grant Program. This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions but has not been considered since this time.

### **Drone Safety**

On July 18, the NCAA signed on to a letter to Members of Congress from the NFL, MLB and NASCAR related to section 813 of the House of Representatives' version of the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act, which would establish a broad and complex waiver program that would permit aircraft to fly over stadiums during games, potentially placing fans and spectators at risk.

## **STATE ISSUES**

### **Name, Image and Likeness**

Since the NCAA announced its interim policy, nearly 30 states have enacted disparate laws affecting the ability of student-athletes to benefit from their NIL, 28 of which are currently active (AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, GA, IL, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, VA). Three states have enacted laws that would fully repeal the state's preexisting NIL law (AL, FL, SC), while fourteen states have enacted laws that would amend their original NIL laws (AR, CT, CO, IL, LA, MO, MS, NE, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX). Additionally, at least 6 states have introduced or enacted legislation which seeks to limit the NCAA's ability to enforce its rules and/or penalize institutions that violate NCAA rules (AR, MO, NM, NY, OK, TX).

### **Transgender Athlete Participation**

To date, 23 states have enacted laws related to transgender athlete participation in sports (AL, AR, AZ, FL, IA, IN, ID, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, OK, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY), 20 of which apply directly to college athletics (AL, AR, AZ, FL, IA, ID, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, OK, SC, SD, TN, TX, WV).

### **Sports Wagering**

Efforts to legalize sports wagering continue in states throughout the country. Currently, sports betting is legal in 39 states and jurisdictions (AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV, WI, WY), and 36 of those jurisdictions (AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, DC, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MS, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY) are currently accepting wagers.

## **Transfers**

The Association [received a letter](#) from North Carolina Governor Cooper on August 9 regarding the denial of a transfer waiver for a University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill student-athlete. The NCAA sent a response to this letter in August.

The Association [received a letter](#) from the Arizona state legislature on September 7 regarding the denial of a transfer waiver for an Arizona State University student-athlete. The NCAA sent a response to this letter on September 15.

## **Cardiac Health**

On September 12, the NCAA – as part of the Smart Heart Sports Coalition – sent a letter to the Pennsylvania state legislature in support of Pennsylvania Senate Bill 375, legislation which would require Pennsylvania schools to have cardiac emergency response plans in place, including having an automatic external defibrillator at all school sporting events and practices.

## **National Conference of State Legislatures**

During NCSL's Annual Legislative Summit on August 16, NCAA office of government relations and national office staff helped host a session titled, "The Future of College Sports: Understanding the current policy landscape of college sports and safeguarding future opportunities for student-athletes, states, and communities. This session featured a panel discussion featuring Jacqie McWilliams (Commissioner, CIAA), Angel Mason (AD, Berry College), Lynda Tealer (AD, University of Florida), Kendall Spencer (former student-athlete, University of New Mexico) and Tim Buckley (SVP of External Affairs, NCAA).

## **Higher Education Associations**

NCAA government relations staff continues to build strong relationships with various higher education associations. The American Council on Education (ACE), the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU), the Association of American Universities (AAU), the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and others continues to provide guidance and support on issues of common interest and other issues which impact students and student-athletes.

**National Field Hockey Coaches Association, USA Field Hockey Joint Statement  
Regarding NCAA proposed amendment to Bylaw**

October 13, 2023

To: Maritza Jones, Managing Director of Division II, NCAA  
Carrie Michaels, Chair of NCAA Division II Management Council, Shippensburg U.  
Rachel Denton, Assistant Director, Academic & Membership Affairs, NCAA  
Joni Comstock, Senior Vice President of Championships, NCAA  
Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II, NCAA

Dear NCAA Colleagues,

We are writing to you on behalf of the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) and USA Field Hockey to express our concerns and request revisions to a proposed change to amend NCAA Bylaws 18.4 regarding '*Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships*.' To optimize the student-athlete experience, to provide ample opportunities for the 930+ current student-athletes competing in NCAA Field Hockey at the Division II level, to celebrate our student-athletes, and to continue supporting the growth of NCAA Field Hockey, we believe a revision and additional time is needed prior to amending the minimum sport sponsorship requirement.

The proposed change pertains to Bylaw 18.4, specifically sections 18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2 regarding the minimum sponsorship requirements for Division II championships in men's and women's sports.

Firstly, we respectfully request reconsideration of the proposed reduction in the number of teams from 35 to 30 teams for sport championship sponsorship. While field hockey currently meets this 35-team standard, the margin for any fluctuation is very slim and the consequences of losing the NCAA Championship would be hugely detrimental on many levels. The elimination of the NCAA Championship experience would have a significant impact on the opportunities available for student-athletes and the growth of our sport at the collegiate level. Institutions would certainly not add field hockey to their portfolio without an NCAA Championship and this decision would likely invite programs to drop the sport.

A sponsorship threshold minimum of 30 teams will continue to bolster the existing Division II field hockey programs, each boasting an average roster size of 25.7 student-athletes. This substantial female roster size not only supports campus enrollment, but also enhances the student-athlete experience opportunities for many high school students. Field hockey student-athletes are some of the top performers academically with some of the highest retention and graduation rates of all collegiate sports.

Field hockey is a sport with a passionate and well-established following, and we believe maintaining the current number of teams is vital to its continued success within the NCAA. Field hockey was one of the first women's NCAA Championship sports, with the NCAA Championship events hosted since 1981. With 36 current Division II field hockey programs, there are currently active efforts in place by the NFHCA and USA Field Hockey to expand the footprint of NCAA field hockey, specifically through the [Field Hockey Forward](#) initiative launched in February of 2023. We have serious concerns that this Proposal will impede these efforts and trigger contraction of our sport.



In addition, we are proposing an extension of the proposed 'Grace Period' from three to five years. It is widely acknowledged that more than three years are typically required for a new program to develop and establish itself at its institution and within the NCAA. By extending the grace period to five years, institutions would be provided with a more reasonable timeframe to build a solid foundation for success.

We understand the importance of balancing the needs of various sports within the NCAA, and we believe that these adjustments are essential to ensure the continued growth and competitiveness of field hockey and other sports at the collegiate level. The NFHCA and USA Field Hockey are committed to working collaboratively with the NCAA to achieve these changes while maintaining the integrity and vitality of the sport.

By utilizing the Division II access ratio for championships, Division II Field Hockey will not only continue to grow, but will also serve as a platform for programs to join and establish themselves within the Division II membership, thereby promoting ongoing growth within the Division II conferences.

We greatly appreciate your attention to these concerns and eagerly anticipate the opportunity to discuss this matter further. We are confident that, together, we can make positive changes that will benefit both current and future student-athletes within the vibrant and established field hockey community.

Historically, Division II provides its student-athletes with the highest access to championships. The opportunity to compete in the NCAA Championship experience is an unmatched opportunity with lifetime memories. We will continue to view the NCAA Championship weekend as the pinnacle time to celebrate our student-athletes, our coaches, and our sport. We underscore the need for the NCAA to give more serious consideration to how the elimination of a Championship opportunity for a sport with 930+ student-athletes would negatively impact the student-athlete experience, health of NCAA Division II Field Hockey, and the overall growth of our Olympic sport.

We would welcome any questions or additional conversation about this proposal and our position. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cate Clark, Executive Director, National Field Hockey Coaches Association  
Simon Hoskins, Executive Director, USA Field Hockey

cc: Carolyn King-Robitaille, NFHCA President  
Jessica Spencer, NFHCA Division II Representative  
Sally Goggin, National Development Director, USA Field Hockey

