

#### **SUMMARY OF FALL 2024 QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

# National Collegiate Athletic Association October 21-22, 2024, Division II Management Council, October 28-29, 2024, Executive Board; and October 31, 2024, Management Council

October 21-22, 2024, Division II Management Council and October 28-29, 2024, Executive Board

#### 1. Welcome and Announcements.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council convened its quarterly meeting at 11:02 a.m. Eastern time Monday, October 21.

The chair welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging staff who were present. The chair also acknowledged five Pathway Program members who were attending the Council meeting as observers.

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

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board convened its quarterly meeting at 6:07 p.m. Eastern time Monday, October 28.

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

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

#### 2. Review of Previous Minutes.

a. July 22-23 Division II Management Council and August 7 Executive Board.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council approved the summary of actions from its summer meetings.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board approved the summary of actions from its summer meetings.

#### b. NCAA Board of Governors.

(1) Noncontroversial Legislation – Committees – Association-wide Committees – Consolidation of the Committee on Women's Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and the Gender Equity Task Force.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to consolidate the Committee on Women's Athletics, Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and Gender Equity Task Force into one comprehensive committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, effective immediately (for the committee composition to be determined in spring 2025 and full implementation of the new committee in fall 2025).

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to consolidate the Committee on Women's Athletics, Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and Gender Equity Task Force into one comprehensive committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

#### (2) Board of Governors Consultative Process.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Executive Board. The Executive Board discussed the key agenda items for the Board of Governors' October 30 meeting and provided feedback, particularly on the item related to the Board of Governors' review Association-wide committees and potential recommendation to sunset the Student-Athlete Engagement Committee.

#### c. Administrative Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council approved the interim actions by the committee.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board approved the interim actions by the committee.

#### 3. 2024-25 Division II Priorities.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the 2024-25 Division II Priorities, which had been approved at the summer series of meetings.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the 2024-25 Division II Priorities.

4. Division II Strategic Planning Process - Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and Think Tank Outcomes, Budget Overview and Next Steps.

Management Council. The Management Council received an update and discussed recommendations from the Division II Think Tank that was held in September. The Think Tank brought thought leaders together from across the division to assess the challenges facing college athletics in general, and Division II in particular, and to develop strategies that continue to position Division II as a thought leader in intercollegiate athletics and a destination of choice for member schools. The Council also received an overview and provided feedback on the Division II budget. Further, the Council received an update that the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee is considering adding exceptions to the championships triennial budget cycle to include: a) Championship bracket adjustments, provided a championships policy has been triggered (e.g., potential expansion when a sport's current bracket exceeds the 50 percent AQ threshold, or the sponsorship of the sport places the access ratio outside of the legislated 4.25 to 6); b) Technology (e.g., video replay, web streaming requirements); and c) Officiating expenses (e.g., adjusting fees to attract quality officials). In early 2025, a Division II survey will be sent to the broader Division II membership to gather input and feedback. Governance committees will use the results of the survey to finalize the Division II Operating Plan, outline initiatives to accomplish, including the timing for them, and determine a funding model for implementation. The final 2026-32 Division II Operating Plan will be shared at the January 2026 NCAA Convention.

Executive Board. The Executive Board Council received an update and discussed recommendations from the Division II Think Tank that was held in September. The Think Tank brought thought leaders together from across the division to assess the challenges facing college athletics in general, and Division II in particular, and to develop strategies that continue to position Division II as a thought leader in intercollegiate athletics and a destination of choice for member schools. The Board also received an overview and provided feedback on the Division II budget. Further, the Board received an update that the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee is considering adding exceptions to the championships triennial budget cycle to include: a) Championship bracket adjustments, provided a championships policy has been triggered (e.g., potential expansion when a sport's current bracket exceeds the 50 percent AO threshold, or the sponsorship of the sport places the access ratio outside of the legislated 4.25 to 6); b) Technology (e.g., video replay, web streaming requirements); and c) Officiating expenses (e.g., adjusting fees to attract quality officials). In early 2025, a Division II survey will be sent to the broader Division II membership to gather input and feedback. Governance committees will use the results of the survey to finalize the Division II Operating Plan, outline initiatives to accomplish, including the timing for them, and determine a funding model for implementation. The final 2026-32 Division II Operating Plan will be shared at the January 2026 NCAA Convention.

#### 5. NCAA Convention and Legislation.

# a. 2025 NCAA Convention Schedule.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the core schedule of events for the 2025 Convention.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the core schedule of events for the 2025 Convention.

(1) Possible Topics for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Management Council and Executive Board Joint Breakfast and Meeting.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed and discussed a draft agenda for the joint breakfast and meeting with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Executive Board during the 2025 Convention.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(2) Management Council Members Serving as Facilitators for Roundtables During Division II Educational Sessions.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed and discussed the topics for the three concurrent Division II education sessions on Thursday, January 16. Management Council members agreed to serve as round-table facilitators during each of the educational sessions.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

b. Proposed Legislation for the 2025 Convention.

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the eight proposals that will be voted on at the 2025 Convention, four sponsored by the governance structure and four that are membership sponsored. The Management Council considered recommending that the Executive Board sponsor an amendment-to-amendment to Proposal No. 2025-5 (athletics eligibility --seasons of competition: 10-semester/15-quarter rule -- criteria for determining season of eligibility --minimum amount of competition -- participation during initial year of collegiate enrollment) to specify that in all sports, except football, a student-athlete in their initial year of collegiate enrollment could not compete in the postseason without using a season of competition. The recommendation was not approved.

Executive Board. The Executive Board reviewed the proposals for the Convention.

c. Discuss Conference and Membership Feedback Regarding Convention Legislation.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council members provided feedback from their conferences on the Convention legislation

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- d. Committees' Review of Membership-Sponsored Proposals and Management Council Positions.
  - (1) Proposal No. 2025-2: Recruiting and Playing and Practice Seasons -- Tryouts and General Playing-Season Regulations -- Mandatory Medical Examinations -- Timing of Medical Examination.

Management Council. The Management Council agreed to oppose this proposal. Specifically, the council noted, that ideally a medical examination should be performed within six weeks prior to the start of any physical activity; however, the six-month time period was adopted to provide schools reasonable flexibility. Additionally, it was noted that extending the six-month timeframe to one-year is inconsistent with existing standards of care for pre-participation medical examinations. Further, the council noted that NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examination) is a common provision and should remain consistent across divisions. Finally, the council noted education on the rule has provided additional clarity about the available flexibility to implement the legislation while maintaining the integrity of the rule.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the Management Council's position. No action was necessary.

(2) Proposal No. 2025-6: Eligibility -- Athletics Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition -- Up to Four Daes of Competition -- Men's Wrestling.

<u>Management Council</u>. The council agreed to take <u>no position</u> on this proposal.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the Management Council's position. No action was necessary.

(3) Proposal No. 2025-7: Playing and Practice Seasons -- General Playing-Season Regulations -- Required Day Off -- Civic Engagement --Exception and Policy Requirement.

<u>Management Council</u>. The council agreed to take <u>no position</u> on this proposal.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the Management Council's position. No action was necessary.

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# (4) Proposal No. 2025-8: Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Automatic Qualification -- Football.

Management Council. The council agreed to <u>support</u> this proposal. Specifically, the council noted that this proposal resembles the representational model the council supported last year via the earned access proposal, which was narrowly defeated on the Convention floor in January 2024. The council also noted that this proposal, which would ensure conference representation through automatic qualification rather than earned access (which makes the representation automatic rather than leaving it to the sport committee to determine), retains the intent of last year's proposal but tweaks the methodology to a more traditional automatic qualification approach.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the Management Council's position. No action was necessary.

#### e. Proposed Grouping of Proposals and Roll-Call Votes.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council approved the order of business for the Division II business session at the 2025 Convention and the designated roll-call votes for the purpose of production of the 2025 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice.

There is a total of eight proposals sponsored for the 2025 Convention. The eight proposals are divided by subject matter. All proposals will be voted on by roll-call vote. One proposal is a football only vote.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### f. Suggested Speakers for the 2025 Convention Proposals.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the speakers' chart for the Division II business session at the 2025 Convention. The Council was informed of the duties that go along with being a designated or back-up speaker and was asked to advise staff of any changes individuals would like to make.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# g. Emergency Legislation.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the emergency proposal, which was previously adopted in legislative form. No action was necessary.

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Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# h. Noncontroversial Legislation.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council adopted in legislative form seven noncontroversial proposals that had previously been approved in concept (Proposal Nos. NC-2025-22 through NC-2025-28), as presented. The proposals are listed below.

- (1) Proposal No. NC-2025-22: Eligibility -- Academic Eligibility -- Full-Time Enrollment -- Requirement for Practice or Competition -- Exceptions -- Final Term Before Experiential Learning Requirement -- Postbaccalaureate Student-Athletes. To clarify that a postbaccalaureate student-athlete may practice and compete while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies during the final semester or quarter of the student's postbaccalaureate degree program before participating in an experiential learning requirement.
- (2) Proposal No. NC-2025-23: Eligibility -- Academic Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility For Competition --Exceptions To Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Missed Term Exception - Qualifiers. To permit a qualifier, during their initial year of enrollment, to have access to the missed-term exception.
- (3) Proposal No. NC-2025-24: Eligibility -- General Eligibility Requirements -- Name, Image and Likeness -- Institutional Involvement. To establish regulations for permissible institutional involvement associated with name, image and likeness activities, as specified.
- (4) Proposal No. NC-2025-25: Eligibility -- Athletics Eligibility -- Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility -- Participation During The Nonchampionship Segment. To permit student-athletes to participate in outside competition during the nonchampionship segment.
- (5) Proposal No. NC-2025-26: Eligibility -- Athletics Eligibility -- Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility -- Collegiate All-Star Contests -- Eliminate Prohibition. To eliminate the prohibition on student-athletes competing in collegiate all-star contests.
- (6) Proposal No. NC-2025-27: Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes -- Modernization and Deregulation. To amend the awards legislation, as specified.
- (7) Proposal No. NC-2025-28: Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Out-Of-Season Athletically Related Activities -- Use of Helmets and

**Spider Pads.** In football, to specify that protective equipment is restricted to helmets and spider pads during noncontact spring practice sessions.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# 6. Review of Committee Recommendations Affecting Division II.

- a. Division II Committees.
  - (1) Academic Requirements Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 2 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (2) Championships Committee.
  - (a) August 8 videoconference, August 19 Electronic Vote and August 29 Videoconference.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's August 8 videoconference, August 19 electronic vote and August 29 videoconference reports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (b) September 10-11 In-Person Meeting.
  - (1) Basketball Festival.

Management Council. The Management Council approved removing basketball from the Division II National Championships Festival rotation; further, the council approved reallocating the \$200,000 set aside for the 2026 Basketball Festival equally across the three years of the joint championships and charged the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Committees to recommend ways to enhance those championships.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update on the Management Council's approval of removing basketball from the Division II National Championships Festival rotation; further, the board was updated on the Management Council approving the reallocation the

\$200,000 set aside for the 2026 Basketball Festival equally across the three years of the joint championships and charging the Men's and Women's Basketball Committees to recommend ways to enhance those championships.

# (2) Date Formula Change – 2026 Men's and Women's Basketball Championships.

Management Council. The Management Council amended the date formula for the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships as follows, due to the men's basketball championship game being conducted as part of the Division I Men's Final Four:

- Tuesday women's quarterfinals.
- Wednesday men's quarterfinals.
- Thursday women's semifinals.
- Friday men's semifinals.
- Saturday women's championship.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided with an update on the Management Council's approval of amending the date formula for the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, due to the men's basketball championship game being conducted as part of the Division I Men's Final Four.

#### (3) Access Ratios for Select Sports.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council approved regional berth allocations for baseball, women's soccer, and men's and women's tennis, as specified in the Attachment.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (c) October 3 Videoconference.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's October 3 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (3) Committee on Infractions.

• Noncontroversial Legislation -- Enhancing Individual Accountability in the NCAA's Infractions Process.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation aimed at increasing accountability for involved individuals in major infractions cases. Specifically, the legislation would:

- (a) Create a public database of all individuals with an infractions history who committed major violations, once an infractions decision has been issued;
- (b) Expressly name individuals in infractions decisions rather than using confidential identifiers;
- (c) Broaden show-cause restrictions to include institutional penalties that attach to the involved individual (*e.g.*, recruiting restrictions, scholarship reductions, postseason bans);
- (d) Broaden suspensions to apply for a designated period of time (e.g., five games and the time period between those games) rather than just game days; and
- (e) Automatically hold head coaches accountable for the actions of their direct and indirect reports.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board was provided an update that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation aimed at increasing accountability for involved individuals in major infractions cases.

# (4) Legislation Committee.

(a) Noncontroversial Legislation -- Various Bylaws -- Elimination of National Letter of Intent Program.

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate references to the National Letter of Intent (NLI) Program, as specified; further, to specify that an athletics staff member or other booster shall not communicate or make contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of athletics aid with another NCAA Division I or Division II institution, or any individual associated with the prospective student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or

nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly; effective immediately.

Executive Board. The Executive Board was provided an update that the Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to eliminate references to the NLI Program, as specified; further, to specify that an athletics staff member or other booster shall not communicate or make contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written offer of athletics aid with another NCAA Division I or Division II institution, or any individual associated with the prospective student-athlete (e.g., family member, scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly.

(b) Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 13.7.3 -- Photograph of Prospective Student-Athlete -- Institutional Camp or Clinic Advertisement.

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to permit an institution to use a prospective student-athlete's photo to advertise an institutional camp or clinic, provided the institution receives written consent from the prospective student-athlete as required by institutional and/or conference policy, effective immediately.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (5) Legislative Relief Committee.
  - (a) August 21 Videoconference.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's August 21 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (b) October 2 Videoconference.
  - Division II Legislative Relief Committee's Previously Approved Waivers Checklist.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the updated Legislative Relief Committee's Previously Approved Waivers Checklist, as specified.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# (6) Membership Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 23 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (7) Nominating Committee.

- (a) August 13 Videoconference.
  - Committee Appointments and Reappointments.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was provided an update that the Administrative Committee approved the following appointments:

i. NCAA Division II Championships Committee (one immediate vacancy replacing Angie Pohl).
 Elizabeth Hoge, assistant athletic director/senior woman administrator, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.

[The appointment above was approved August 19 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference. Further, during the appointment process, it was determined that Ms. Hoge is ineligible for this appointment because she is currently serving on a sport committee.]

ii. NCAA International Student Records Committee (two September reappointments). Hanna Lantz, assistant athletic director, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Lone Star Conference; and Heidi Leonard, international student advisor, King University, Conference Carolinas, to a second threeyear term.

> [The appointment above was approved August 19 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference.]

#### (b) August 20 Videoconference.

• Committee Appointment.

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

 NCAA Division II Championships Committee (one immediate vacancy). Christina Paone, interim vice president/director of athletics, Walsh University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference (Midwest region).

[The appointment above was approved August 28 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference.]

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (c) September 10 Videoconference.
  - Committee Appointments.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council approved the following appointments, effective immediately:

- a. NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions. Sara Richwine, senior associate athletics director for compliance, University of New Haven, Northeast-10 Conference.
- b. NCAA Division II Nominating Committee. Matisse Lee, senior associate director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Claflin University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

- (8) Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.
  - (a) August 12 Videoconference.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's August 12 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

(b) September 18 In-Person Meeting.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 18 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (c) Unaudited 2023-24 Budget Figures.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the unaudited 2023-24 budget figures.

<u>Presidents Council</u>. The Presidents Council reviewed the unaudited 2023-24 budget figures.

# (9) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's July 19-20 in-person meeting and September 8 videoconference reports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (10) Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 6 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### b. Division II Subcommittees, Project Teams and Task Forces.

• Management Council Identity Subcommittee.

<u>Management Council.</u> The Management Council reviewed the subcommittee's September 13 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### c. Association-Wide Committees.

- (1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.
  - (a) June 17-18 In-Person Meeting.
    - Noncontroversial Legislation Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports –

Composition – Physician with Endocrinology Expertise – "On the Staff" or "General Public."

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to specify that the CSMAS position designated for a physician with expertise in endocrinology may be filled by an individual who is either "on the staff" at a member institution or a member of the "general public," effective immediately.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# (b) Excerpt from September 16-17 In-Person Meeting.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the excerpt from the committee's September 16-17 report.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the excerpt from the committee's September 16-17 report.

# (2) Honors Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's June 25 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (3) Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the panel's August 8 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### (4) Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the committee's July 12 videoconference report.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### 7. Division II Management Council.

a. Elections to Fill Vacancies from the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Northeast-10 Conference and Pacific West Conference.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council elected the following individuals to become new representatives on the Council, effective at the adjournment of the 2025 Division II Business Session.

- (1) <u>Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association</u>. **George Knox**, director of athletics, Shaw University.
- (2) <u>Northeast-10 Conference</u>. **Eric Gobiel**, director of athletics, Assumption University.
- (3) <u>Pacific West Conference</u>. **Jackie Armstrong**, senior associate director of athletics for compliance and senior woman administrator, Point Loma Nazarene University.

Executive Board. The Executive Board ratified the elections.

# b. Election of Management Council Chair.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council re-elected **Roberta Page**, director of athletics, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, as the chair of the Management Council, effective at the adjournment of the 2025 Division II Business Session, for a one-year term.

Executive Board. The Executive Board ratified the re-election.

#### c. Election of Management Council Vice Chair.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council re-elected **Erin Lind**, commissioner, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, as the vice chair of the Management Council, effective at the adjournment of the 2025 Business Session, for a one-year term.

Executive Board. The Executive Board ratified the re-election.

# d. Management Council Committee and Project Team Assignments.

<u>Management Council</u>. 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.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

e. Timing of Virtual Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit in July 2025.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council discussed date options of the Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summitt scheduled for July 2025 due to the change from an in-person summit to virtual. The Council agreed that the summit will take place Friday, July 18.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### 8. Division II Executive Board.

- **a. Chair Election.** The Executive Board re-elected **Colleen Perry Keith**, president, Goldey-Beacom University, as chair of the board, for a one-year period, starting at the conclusion of the 2025 business session and concluding January 2026.
- **b. Vice Chair Election.** The Executive Board re-elected **Sandra Woodley**, president, University of Texas, Permian Basin, as vice chair of the board, for a one-year period, starting at the conclusion of the 2025 business session and concluding January 2026.
- c. Review of the Division II Presidents and Chancellors Oversight Summary. The Executive Board participated in breakout sessions to provide feedback on updating the Division II Presidents and Chancellors Oversight Summary resource.
- d. Overview of the Division II Championships Committee's Bracketing and Selections. The Executive Board was provided an update on the Championships Committee's regionalization review, as follows:
  - (1) Review of KPI and NPI (NCAA Power Index) data for selections. Staff provided an overview of the analysis conducted for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 men's basketball and softball brackets comparing KPI and NPI data. The analysis showed both metrics produced similar results that do not drastically differ from the fields sport committees actually selected. Staff noted that Division III has adopted use of the NPI effective this coming year and has established a process and timeline within which sport committees can adjust their "dials" (specific components of the metric for their sport) and provide institutions enough lead time to adjust their scheduling accordingly. Staff also noted that the KPI, while perhaps more publicly recognized, is less transparent because it is proprietary while the NPI is owned and operated in house and would be available for the membership to fully understand.

The committee plans to formally survey the Division II membership on whether to adopt a different selection metric to replace the current selection criteria. Also, however – even before a survey – the committee emphasized the need for the concept to be socialized within the membership to both educate about a selections-based metric and also determine interest so that the subsequent survey questions could be structured to obtain more accurate input.

Potential bracketing principles. Staff provided and overview regarding **(2)** the Championships Committee's discussion on potential bracketing principles that could enhance the division's regionalization approach in championship selections and bracketing. At its June 2024 meeting, the Championships Committee reviewed survey feedback from the Division II sport committees as well as the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) and Division II Athletics Directors Association board. As outlined in the original regionalization review principles, the committee confirmed that selections should still be conducted regionally (i.e., guaranteeing representation in the field from each region as is currently done). To help inform discussion about bracketing, the committee agreed to test the following principles (in rank order) for the previous three championships in men's basketball and softball: (1) the top seed in each region (or in softball, the top two seeds) should retain the right to host; (2) avoid first-round conference matchups; (3) minimize the number of flights; and (4) where possible, consider competitive balance among the sites.

The committee reviewed these test samples at length and discussed the step-by-step approach proposed for sport committees to use when bracketing. Afterward, committee members went through their own bracketing exercises from the beginning to demonstrate how the process works in real time. Importantly, this exercise included a review after all the principles had been followed of whether the bracket was as competitively equitable as possible. Accordingly, the committee was able to see what tweaks could be made at that final stage to deliver the fairest bracket possible within the stated process. The committee requested staff test additional brackets in attempt to hone the competitive balance principle, including a review of the potential impact of ensuring the top eight seeds are all in separate regions, for review at a future meeting.

- e. Joint Lunch and Meeting. The Executive Board participated in a joint lunch and meeting with the NCAA Board of Governors, Division I Board of Directors and Division III Presidents Council. The groups received a presentation on sports wagering that included background information, recent survey results, the CSMAS discussion on the topic and information from the office of legal affairs.
- 9. National Office Updates.
  - a. Executive.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council received an update from the NCAA president on issues surrounding the NCAA.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board received an update on issues surrounding the NCAA from the NCAA president.

# b. NCAA Centralized Streaming Platform.

Management Council. The Management Council received an update that the national office is exploring a centralized webstreaming platform for any championship competitions that are not part of the NCAA's linear broadcast agreements. A Request for Information (RFI) has been sent to select companies that offer a webstreaming platform. The goal of the RFI is to understand what's available in the market, including vendor capabilities, business models and pricing estimates. RFIs will be reviewed by the national office and NCAA multimedia rights partner TNT Sports to determine if any should be further considered to enhance the NCAA digital ecosystem.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# d. Legal.

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

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

#### d. Sport Science Institute.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including mental health, performance and training advisory group and sports betting, including specifics on the CSMAS' review in September.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including mental health, performance and training advisory group and sports betting, including specifics on the CSMAS' review in September.

#### e. Division II Award of Excellence.

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<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was informed that nominations for the award will be accepted through November 13. The overall winner of the award will be recognized at the Division II business session during the 2025 Convention.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### f. Division II ADA Mentor Program.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was provided an overview of the nomination process for the Division II ADA Mentor Program.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### g. Division II FAR Fellows Institute.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council received an update on the September 27-29 Division II FAR Fellows Institute.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### h. Division II Diversity Grants.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was provided information on the division's diversity grants, including the Coaches' Enhancement Grant, the Ethic Minority and Women's Internship Grant, and the Strategic Alliance Matching Grant.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# i. Division II SAAC Super Region Convention.

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

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### j. Division II Make It Yours Brand/Marketing Strategy.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was provided an overview of the Division II Make It Yours brand/marketing strategy.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

k. NCAA Transfer Portal.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council received information on the trends in the Transfer Portal regarding Division II student-athletes.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board received information on the trends in the Transfer Portal regarding Division II student-athletes.

1. Sports Wagering Legislation.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was provided an update on the review of the sports wagering landscape.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

# 10. Affiliated Association Updates.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council was updated on the activities of the following affiliated associations.

- a. Division II Athletics Directors Association.
- b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association.
- c. College Sports Communicators.
- d. Faculty Athletics Representative Association.
- e. Minority Opportunities Athletics Association.
- f. National Association for Athletics Compliance.
- g. Women Leaders in Sports.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### 11. Other Business.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

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

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a list of topics/issues

to report to its member institutions. These topics included information on the 2025 Convention information; legislation for the 2025 Convention; 2024-25 Division II Priorities; Division II Operating Plan, Think Tank and Long-Range Budget Update; Championships Committee highlights including the Basketball Festival, change in date formula for basketball, access ratios and regionalization update; changes to the NLI Program and educational resources; noncontroversial legislation to enhance the individual accountability in the NCAA's infractions process; noncontroversial legislation to consolidate the Committee on Women's Athletics, Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and Gender Equity Task Force into one comprehensive committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging; Award of Excellence; SAAC Super Region Convention; diversity grants; Division II Degree Completion Award Committee; centralized streaming platform; Source One digital signage credit; Epic Risk Management; Transfer Portal dashboard; Division II FAR resources; and the Management Council post-meeting article.

Executive Board. No action was necessary.

#### 13. Future Meetings.

<u>Management Council</u>. The Management Council reviewed the upcoming meetings through January 2026.

<u>Executive Board</u>. The Executive Board reviewed the upcoming meetings through October 2025.

#### 14. Adjournment.

Management Council. The Management Council adjourned at 5 p.m. October 22.

Executive Board. The Executive Board adjourned at 11:35 a.m. October 29.

#### October 31, 2024, Management Council.

- 1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The Management Council convened its videoconference at 11:02 a.m. Eastern time Thursday, October 31. The chair welcomed those in attendance.
- 2. Referral of the NCAA Woman of the Year Award to the NCAA Honors Committee. The Management Council approved a referral to the NCAA Honors Committee to consider a legislative change to amend its duties to include oversight and management of the NCAA Woman of the Year Award; further, to remove the oversight and administration of the NCAA Woman of Year Award from the duties of the Committee on Women's Athletics.

- 3. Overview on the Division II Championships Committee's Bracketing and Selections Review. The Management Council was provided an update on the Championships Committee's regionalization review, as follows:
  - a. Review of KPI and NPI (NCAA Power Index) data for selections. Staff provided an overview of the analysis conducted for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 men's basketball and softball brackets comparing KPI and NPI data. The analysis showed both metrics produced similar results that do not drastically differ from the fields sport committees actually selected. Staff noted that Division III has adopted use of the NPI effective this coming year and has established a process and timeline within which sport committees can adjust their "dials" (specific components of the metric for their sport) and provide institutions enough lead time to adjust their scheduling accordingly. Staff also noted that the KPI, while perhaps more publicly recognized, is less transparent because it is proprietary while the NPI is owned and operated in house and would be available for the membership to fully understand.

The committee plans to formally survey the membership on whether to adopt a different selection metric to replace the current selection criteria. Also, however – even before a survey – the committee emphasized the need for the concept to be socialized within the membership to both educate about a selections-based metric and also determine interest so that the subsequent survey questions could be structured to obtain more accurate input.

b. Potential bracketing principles. Staff provided an overview regarding the Championships Committee discussion on potential bracketing principles that could enhance the division's regionalization approach in championship selections and bracketing. At its June 2024 meeting, the championships committee reviewed survey feedback from the Division II sport committees as well as the Division II CCA and Division II Athletics Directors Association board. As outlined in the original regionalization review principles, the committee confirmed that selections should still be conducted regionally (i.e., guaranteeing representation in the field from each region as is currently done). To help inform discussion about bracketing, the committee agreed to test the following principles (in rank order) for the previous three championships in men's basketball and softball: (1) the top seed in each region (or in softball, the top two seeds) should retain the right to host; (2) avoid first-round conference matchups; (3) minimize the number of flights; and (4) where possible, consider competitive balance among the sites.

The committee reviewed these test samples at length and discussed the step-by-step approach proposed for sport committees to use when bracketing. Afterward, committee members went through their own bracketing exercises from the beginning to demonstrate how the process works in real time. Importantly, this exercise included a review after all the principles had been followed of whether the bracket was as competitively equitable as possible. Accordingly, the committee was able to see what tweaks could be made at that final stage to deliver the fairest

bracket possible within the stated process. The committee requested staff test additional brackets in attempt to hone the competitive balance principle, including a review of the potential impact of ensuring the top eight seeds are all in separate regions, for review at a future meeting.

- 4. Other Business. No action was necessary.
- **5. Adjournment.** The Management Council adjourned at 12:17 p.m. Eastern time October 31.

October 21-22, 2024, Management Council; October 28-29, Executive Board; and October 31, 2024, Management Council			
Attendees:			
Management Council	<b>Executive Board</b>		
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul		
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University	Tim Collins, Walsh University		
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University		
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	Donna Henry, University of Virginia's College at Wise		
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College		
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania		
Peter Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University	Larry Parkinson, Independent Member		
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	Steve Shirley, Minot State University		
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	Blake Thompson, Mississippi College		
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University		
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University		
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University (October 21-22)	Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin		
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California			
David Hicks, King University			
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference			
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College (October 21-22)			
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University			
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College			

NCAA Division II Management Council and Executive Board Summary of Actions—Fall 2024 Meetings Page No. 25

Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania (October 21-22)	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University	
(October 21-22)	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of	
Pennsylvania	
Bo Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State	
University	
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University	
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University	
Absentees:	
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University (October 31)	Roslyn Artis, Benedict College
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College (October 31)	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania (October 31)	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University (October 31)	
Guests in Attendance	
Joseph Arnold, Clark Atlanta University.	None.
Rebecca Clark, Eckerd College.	
Matthew Hutchinson, Washburn University of	
Topeka.	
Ahleasha McNeal, Lincoln Memorial University.	
Pennie Parker, Rollins College	
Candice Turner, Wayne State University	
(Michigan).	

#### NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Charlie Baker (October 21-22, October 28-29), Lydia Bell (October 28-29), Deena Caserio (October 21-22, October 28-29), Michael Cioroianu (October 28-29), Rachel Denton (October 21-22, October 28-29), Nate Flannery, (October 21-22), Terri Steeb Gronau, Chelsea Hooks (October 21-22, October 28-29), Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Karen Kirsch, Kevin Lennon (October 28-29), Micaela Liddane (October 21-22, October 31), Jordan Lysiak, Ann Martin (October 21-22), Marnae Mawdsley (October 21-22); Mariah Murdock, Susan Peal (October 21-22), Lamarr Pottinger (October 21-22), Angela Red, Rachel Seewald (October 21-22), Jared Tidemann (October 21-22, October 28-29) and Jill Waddell.



# REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2024, MEETING

# ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
  - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
  - a. Regional berth allocations in baseball.
    - (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2024-25 sport sponsorship information:

Region	No. of	2023-24	2024-25	Access
	Institutions	Berths	Berths	Ratio
Atlantic	29	7	6	4.83
Central	39	8	8	4.88
East	30	7	7	4.29
Midwest	32	7	7	4.57
South	35	8	8	4.38
South Central	21	6	6	3.50
Southeast	35	7	8	4.38
West	25	6	6	4.17
	246	56	56	4.39

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. 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. This year's access ratios saw the Atlantic region lose a bid, with the Southeast region gaining one.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. 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.

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# b. Regional berth allocations in women's soccer.

(1) <u>Recommendation</u>. Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2024-25 sport sponsorship information:

Region	No. of	2023-24	2024-25	Access
	Institutions	Berths	Berths	Ratio
Atlantic	32	7	7	4.57
Central	36	8	8	4.50
East	31	7	7	4.43
Midwest	34	8	7	4.86
South	25	6	6	4.17
South Central	26	6	6	4.33
Southeast	37	8	8	4.63
West	31	6	7	4.43
	252	56	56	4.50

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. 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 Midwest. With changing membership numbers in the West 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 rations into the tightest range possible within the bracket size of 56.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. 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) <u>Recommendation</u>. Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2024-25 sport sponsorship information:

#### Men's Tennis:

Region	No. of	2023-24	2024-25	Access
	Institutions	Berths	Berths	Ratio
Atlantic	18	7	7	2.57
Central	11	4	4	2.75
East	12	5	5	2.40
Midwest	26	8	8	3.25
South	26	8	8	3.25
South Central	8	4	4	2.00
Southeast	31	8	8	3.88
West	10	4	4	2.50
	142	48	48	2.96

#### Women's Tennis:

Region	No. of	2023-24	2024-25	Access
	Institutions	Berths	Berths	Ratio
Atlantic	31	7	7	4.43
Central	26	6	6	4.33
East	21	5	5	4.20
Midwest	29	7	7	4.14
South	31	8	7	4.43
South Central	11	4	4	2.75
Southeast	33	7	8	4.13
West	15	4	4	3.75
	197	48	48	4.10

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. 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.

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(5) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. 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: Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.

Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.

Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances. Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.