



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

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

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

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 7.3.2.1.2 (options when no Division II championship is conducted) to specify in men's ice hockey, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship provided there is not a men's ice hockey championship conducted in Division II.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Under current Division II legislation, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I championship in any sport for which there is no Division II championship conducted. With the adoption of Division I Proposal No. 2024-51 (championships -- eligibility for championships -- Division I option when no Division II championship is conducted -- men's ice hockey), Division I legislation only provides access to the Division I championship for Division II institutions in men's ice hockey. Aligning the legislation with Division I provides clarity for Division II institutions in understanding the championship opportunities that are available in Division I when there is not a Division II championship conducted in a sport.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

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

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

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

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

7. **Discussion regarding Division I Proposal No. 2024-51 (championships -- eligibility for championships -- Division I option when no Division II championship is conducted -- men's ice hockey).** The committee discussed Division I Proposal No. 2024-51, which amended the legislation to specify in men's ice hockey, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship provided there is not a men's ice hockey championship conducted in Division II. Current Division II legislation allows for a Division II member institution to be eligible to compete in the Division I championship in any sport for which no Division II championship is conducted. Given the recent change in Division I, the committee recommended noncontroversial legislation to align the Division II legislation with the Division I legislation. [See Legislative Action Item.]

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

*Committee Chair: Christina Whetsel, Augusta University*

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

*Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs*

*Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs*

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