



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
JULY 9-10, 2024, IN-PERSON MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of annual reports from institutions in the membership process.** The NCAA Division II Membership Committee reviewed the annual reports submitted by the 11 institutions in the membership process. The committee agreed to the following actions:

- a. **Move the following institutions to active member status, effective September 1, 2024:**

- (1) Allen University;
- (2) Edward Waters University;
- (3) Emory & Henry University; and
- (4) Westmont College.

[NOTE: Debbie Snell, executive director of athletics, Hawaii Pacific University, recused herself from the discussion and voting regarding Westmont College. Christie Ward, deputy athletics director, Catawba College, recused herself from the discussion and voting regarding Emory & Henry University. Christina Whetsel, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Augusta University, recused herself from the discussion and voting regarding Allen University.]

- b. **Move the following institutions to provisional year three, effective September 1, 2024:**

- (1) Thomas More University; and
- (2) University of South Carolina Beaufort.

[NOTE: Cindy McKnight, director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Ursuline College, recused herself from the discussion and voting regarding Thomas More University. Christina Whetsel, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Augusta University, recused herself from the discussion and voting regarding University of South Carolina Beaufort.]

- c. **Move the following institutions to provisional year two, effective September 1, 2024:**

- (1) Jessup University;
- (2) Menlo College;
- (3) Roosevelt University;
- (4) Sul Ross State University; and
- (5) 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. Keri Becker, director of athletics, Grand Valley State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Roosevelt University.]

**2. Review of the applications of the following institutions to enter provisional year one, effective September 1, 2024:**

- a. Approved the following institution to enter provisional year one of the three-year provisional membership process, effective September 1, 2024:
  - Point Park University.

[NOTE: Troy Dell, director of athletics, Frostburg State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Point Park University.]

- b. Approved the following institutions to enter provisional year one of the two-year expedited provisional membership process, effective September 1, 2024:
  - (1) University of California, Merced;
  - (2) University of Jamestown; and
  - (3) University of Texas at Dallas.

[NOTE: Melanie Brunsdon, senior woman administrator, Winona State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding the University of Jamestown.]

**3. Review of waiver requests submitted regarding the membership process.** The committee reviewed waiver requests submitted by Thomas More University and Westmont College to waive year three of the provisional membership process and advance the institutions to active membership status, effective September 1, 2024. The committee denied the waiver request for Thomas More University, noting that the institution did not demonstrate its readiness to become an active Division II member. The committee

approved the waiver request for Westmont College, noting that the institution demonstrated its readiness to become an active Division II member.

In addition, the committee reviewed waiver requests submitted by Point Park University; University of California, Merced; University of Jamestown; and University of Texas at Dallas, to enter the two-year expedited provisional membership process, effective September 1, 2024. The committee approved the waiver request for University of California, Merced; University of Jamestown; and University of Texas at Dallas, noting that the institutions demonstrated their readiness to enter the expedited provisional membership process. The committee denied the waiver request for Point Park University, noting that the institution did not demonstrate its readiness to enter the expedited provisional membership process.

[NOTE: Debbie Snell, executive director of athletics, Hawaii Pacific University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Westmont College. Cindy McKnight, director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Ursuline College, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Thomas More University. Troy Dell, director of athletics, Frostburg State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding Point Park University. Melanie Brunson, senior woman administrator, Winona State University, recused themselves from the discussion and voting regarding the University of Jamestown.]

4. **Update on recent active member issues.** The committee received an update on the potential merger between the University of Findlay and Bluffton College (Division III). During its discussion, the committee determined that additional information and clarity is necessary to make a determination regarding the membership status of the institution. As a result, the committee agreed to table its discussion until additional information is provided and accreditation is resolved through the regional accrediting agency.

Additionally, the committee received an update regarding recent guidance issued by the United States Department of Education related to mergers of institutions. Specifically, it was noted that the Department of Education now requires merging institutions to have a singular federal ID number in which they report to the federal government.

[NOTE: Cindy McKnight, director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Ursuline College, recused themselves from the discussion regarding the University of Findlay.]

5. **Update regarding institutions seeking reclassification from Division II to Division I.** The committee received an update that Mercyhurst University and the University of West Georgia submitted a membership application by the June 1, 2024, deadline, to reclassify all sports to Division I.
6. **Update on compliance blueprint review program.** The committee discussed the performance of vendors for the compliance blueprint review program during the 2023-24 academic year. In addition, the committee received an update regarding the status of the compliance blueprint review program for the 2024-25 academic year.

7. **Review of Division II health and safety legislation for provisional year-one institutions.** The committee received an update regarding a request from provisional member institutions seeking clarification on the Division II health and safety legislation that is required for institutions to follow in year one of the provisional membership process [see Division II Bylaw 7.4.1.5.3.1 (assessment program)]. Staff is consulting with the NCAA Sports Science Institute on this request and the committee will receive an update during its September 23, 2024, videoconference.
8. **Discussion regarding the minimum participant requirement in the sport of tennis for sports sponsorship.** During its April 10, 2024, videoconference, the Membership Committee requested that the Division II Tennis Committee provide feedback on whether an increase to the minimum participant requirement in tennis is necessary. Based on the feedback, the Membership Committee determined that increasing the minimum participant requirement in tennis is not appropriate at this time.
9. **Review of the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Report.** The Membership Committee reviewed items outlined in the Division I Transformation Committee report that directly impacts areas specific to membership. During this review, the Membership Committee discussed feedback provided by the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee that are student-athlete focused. The Membership Committee will continue this discussion at its September 23, 2024, videoconference.
10. **Education update.** The committee received an update on the five required courses for the 2024-25 coaches certification requirement. As of June 25, 2024, over 2,800 users completed the required curriculum while over 9,300 users were enrolled. Additionally, the committee received an update that the 2025 Regional Rules Seminar will be held June 18-20, 2025, in Indianapolis.
11. **Review of Requests/Self-Reports Online (RSRO) use by provisional institutions.** The committee received an update on the usage of RSRO by provisional institutions during the 2023-24 academic year.
12. **Review of expedited provisional membership application.** The committee reviewed and approved the application for the two-year expedited provisional membership process.
13. **Approval of the Membership Committee April 10, 2024, videoconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its April 10, 2024, videoconference.
14. **Review of the April 2024 NCAA Division II Executive Board and NCAA Division II Management Council summary of actions.** Staff provided an update on the summary of actions from the Executive Board and Management Council April 2024 meetings.
15. **Update from the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors' most recent meeting.

16. **Discussion regarding the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) recruiting efforts to active Division II institutions.** The committee discussed recent efforts by the NAIA to recruit Division II institutions. The committee will continue to track on any future NAIA recruitment efforts.
17. **Election of chair and vice chair.** The committee elected Christina Whetsel, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Augusta University, as chair; and Melanie Brunson, senior woman administrator, Winona State University, as vice chair, effective September 1, 2024.
18. **Recognition of outgoing members.** The committee recognized the service of three outgoing members: Keri Becker, Grand Valley State University; Will Prewitt, Great American Conference; and Debbie Snell, Hawaii Pacific University.
19. **Review of the Membership Committee roster.** The committee reviewed its updated roster.
20. **Future meetings/videoconferences schedule.**
  - a. September 23, 2024, videoconference; 2 to 4 p.m. Eastern time.
  - b. November 13, 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - c. February 11, 2025, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
  - d. April 2025, videoconference; time to be determined.
  - e. July 8-9, 2025, 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*

*Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>NCAA Division II Membership Committee July 9-10, 2024, In-Person Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Michael Bazemore, Montana State University Billings.	
Keri Becker, Grand Valley State University.	
Melanie Brunson, Winona State University.	
Troy Dell, Frostburg State University.	
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 (Management Council chair).
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>
Amy Mallett, The Compliance Group.
Jill Willson, Double L Consulting.
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Jeremy Christoffels, Jordan Lysiak and Katelyn Skarr.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Brooke Dixon, Terri Steeb Gronau, Molly Hansen, Maritza Jones and Angela Red.