



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 12, 2018, IN-PERSON MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

- **Noncontroversial Legislation – NCAA Division II Bylaws 20.10.3.3.4 and 20.10.3.3.4.1 – Division Membership – Membership Requirements – Sports Sponsorship – Counting Multiteam Events in Individual Sports.**
  - (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to eliminate Bylaws 20.10.3.3.4 (counting multiteam events in individual sports) and 20.10.3.3.4.1 (meets with no team scoring); further, to specify that the elimination of the legislation would remove the opportunity for institutions to count multiteam events as more than one contest toward meeting the minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship in individual sports.
  - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2019.
  - (3) Rationale. As a condition of NCAA Division II membership, institutions must sponsor a minimum of 10 sports and satisfy several additional sports sponsorship requirements. For an individual sport to be used to meet the minimum sports sponsorship requirements, an institution must participate in a minimum number of contests with a minimum number of participants in that sport each year. Under current legislation, institutions are permitted to count multiteam competition in individual sports (e.g., quadrangular track and field meets) as two contests for sports sponsorship, provided the event is scored as an institution versus institution meeting at the time that it occurs (as opposed to achieving a single team score against all participating institutions). The membership has expressed confusion about the scoring and format requirements for counting multiteam events as two contests. For purposes of minimum requirements for championship selection, several individual sports (including cross country and track and field) have eliminated the opportunity to count multiteam events as more than one contest for meeting the minimum scheduling requirements to be selected for a championship. This recommendation will reduce confusion and align sports sponsorship requirements more closely with requirements for championships selection.
  - (4) Estimated budget impact. Will vary. Some institutions may be required to add additional contests or events to meet sports sponsorship minimums.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**2. Nonlegislative Action Items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review of vendor recommendations for streamlining the application and annual reporting process.** The committee received a report from Strategic Edge Athletic Consulting, the vendor hired to complete a comprehensive review of the Division II membership application and membership process annual reports to identify inefficiencies, redundancies and areas for improvement. The vendor outlined recommendations for streamlining the process for collecting necessary information from an institution to determine whether the institution is ready to enter the provisional membership process and/or to advance through the process.

The committee noted the following related to recommendations in the vendor report:

- a. The committee directed staff to conduct an initial review of the recommendations regarding questions on the application and annual reports. The staff will provide its recommendations for modifications at the July 2019 in-person meeting;
- b. The committee agreed to enhance questions related to financial stability, retention rates and accreditation status of institutions. The committee directed staff to identify the relevant questions for a more detailed review at the July 2019 in-person meeting;
- c. Conference office involvement in the membership process is critical and should be a focus moving forward. Specifically, the committee recommended that the conference office memorandum that accompanies the membership application and annual reports be enhanced to require additional detail about the conference's support of the applicant or provisional institution. In addition, the committee directed staff to encourage commissioner involvement in the provisional year one orientation meetings; and
- d. Education on process requirements and Division II rules and regulations are critical to schools in the membership process. The committee agreed to continue its review of educational efforts to determine opportunities for enhancement.

In addition to the items noted above, the committee highlighted recommendations that have already been implemented and identified additional points for further discussion. The committee will continue its discussions at its July 2019 in-person meeting.

2. **Update on institutions in the membership process.** Staff provided an update on institutions currently in the membership process.
3. **Update on institutions on probation or in restricted status for the 2018-19 academic year.** Staff provided an update on the list of schools that are currently or have been on probation or in restricted status since 2007.
4. **Update on Paine College accreditation status.** Staff provided an update on the accreditation status of Paine College, and noted that the institution is currently appealing a federal district court's decision regarding its status as well as the Southern Association of Colleges and School's decision to remove accreditation. Per current legislation, an institution must be accredited through one of the six regional accrediting agencies to be a member of the NCAA and Division II. If Paine's accreditation is not reinstated by SACS, the institution will immediately forfeit its membership in Division II. If membership is forfeited, the institution or its conference will have an opportunity to file a waiver with the NCAA Division II Championships Committee to continue counting as a Division II opponent. Staff will continue to track the institution's status and agreed to inform the committee of any changes.
5. **Review of membership waiver chart.** Staff provided an update on membership waivers that have been submitted by institutions and conferences since 1991.
6. **Discussion regarding independent members and minimum contest requirements.** In response to concerns about an independent Division II member playing very few Division II contests, the committee discussed whether it is appropriate to establish minimum requirements for the number of contests institutions must complete against Division II opponents. The committee directed staff to collect schedules from all independent members for further review at a future meeting.
7. **Discussion regarding sports sponsorship requirements and multiteam events in individual sports.** The committee recommended sponsorship of noncontroversial legislation to remove the opportunity for institutions to count multiteam events as more than one contest toward meeting the minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship in individual sports. [See Legislative Action Item.]
8. **Discussion regarding review of for-profit institutions.** The committee directed staff to amend its policies and procedures to note that the status of for-profit institutions will be reviewed every two years.
9. **Division I to Division II reclassification process.**
  - a. **Review of provisional year one annual report form.** The committee reviewed and recommended changes to the provisional year one annual report for schools

moving from Division I to Division II.

- b. Discussion regarding Division I institutions moving to Division II while retaining sports programs in Division I.** The committee discussed its interpretive and philosophical positions on whether a Division I institution that intends to reclassify to Division II should be permitted to retain one or more sports programs at the Division I level. The committee agreed that current legislation appears to provide flexibility for a reclassifying institution to retain a sport(s) in Division I, but agreed that situations should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether such an arrangement should be permitted.
- 10. Discussion regarding requirement that institutions spend at least five years in Division II before applying for Division I membership.** The committee recommended that the NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee reconsider the requirement that an institution must spend at least five years in Division II before applying for Division I membership. The committee agreed that all three divisions have distinct philosophies and the current requirement places institutions and the Division II Membership Committee in a difficult position as it impacts the long-term stability of Division II conferences and the Division II membership as a whole.
- 11. Discussion regarding Biola University waiver request related to 2019 NCAA Convention attendance requirements.** The committee reviewed and approved a membership requirements waiver for Biola University providing relief from the requirement for attendance at the 2019 NCAA Convention business session and Membership Committee sessions. Specifically, the director of athletics is unable to attend due to circumstances outside of her control.
- [Note: Barb Hannum, Hawaii Pacific University, recused herself from this discussion.]
- 12. Update on membership trends and discussion regarding philosophical approach to mergers.** The committee reviewed a discussion document regarding philosophical expectations related to institutional mergers that will be shared with the membership committees in all three divisions. The committee agreed that retaining active members is important and a flexible approach to evaluating mergers is warranted. The committee noted that institutions should be required to maintain the integrity of transfer regulations in situations where one institution includes more than one athletics program. In addition, the committee agreed that an institution must also be required to use entirely separate facilities and have an entirely separate athletics department staff for it to be permissible for one institution to operate more than one athletics department.
- 13. Review of 2019 NCAA Convention Division II legislative proposals.** Staff provided an overview of the legislative proposals that will be voted on at the 2019 Convention.

14. **Review of 2019 Convention meetings with provisional institutions.** The committee reviewed and approved the agendas for the provisional meetings that will occur during the 2019 NCAA Convention.
15. **Review of 2019 Convention assignments.** The committee discussed its role and assigned responsibilities during the 2019 NCAA Convention for credentialing and vote counting during the business session.
16. **Update on 2019 Convention Division II education session on membership trends.** The committee received an update on a Division II education session regarding membership trends that will occur during the 2019 NCAA Convention. The session will include a panel discussion about current trends in higher education and the impact of those trends on Division II membership. In addition, attendees will see a demonstration of how the Institutional Performance Program database can be used to assist in institutional discussions about adding or discontinuing teams.
17. **Vendor contracts for sports sponsorship audits and financial aid audits.** The committee agreed to extend the contracts of its current vendors for sports sponsorship (The Compliance Group) and financial aid audits (Strategic Edge Athletic Consulting, LLC) for the next two academic years.
18. **Review and approval of September 2018 teleconference report to the Management Council.** The committee reviewed and approved its September 20, 2018, teleconference report, as presented.
19. **Update from the October NCAA Division II Presidents Council and Management Council meetings.** The committee received an update on key items from the October Presidents Council and Management Council meetings.
20. **Review of NCAA Division II 2018-19 priorities.** Staff provided an update on the priorities that will be the focus of the division in 2018-19.
21. **Update from the NCAA Board of Governors.** The committee received an update on items from the October Board of Governors meeting. The update included information regarding the formation of a sports wagering task force and forthcoming communications for the 2019 NCAA Convention Association-wide proposal regarding the Board of Governors composition [BOG 2019-1 (organization – board of governors – independent members)].
22. **Update from the October Division II Conference Commissioners Association and Athletics Directors Association meetings.** Staff provided an update on the October meetings of the Conference Commissioners Association and Athletics Directors Association.

**23. Future scheduled meetings.**

- a. February 19, 2019, teleconference.
- b. April 2019, teleconference; to be determined.
- b. July 9-11, 2019, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
- c. November 11-12, 2019, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair: Leslie Schuemann, Heartland Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Mike Bazemore, Academic and Membership Affairs*

*Amanda Conklin, Academic and Membership Affairs*

*Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>NCAA Division II Membership Committee November 12, 2018, In-Person Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Natalie Cullen, Pittsburg State University.	
Barbara Hannum, Hawaii Pacific University.	
Courtney Lovely, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Larry Marfise, University of Tampa.	
Margaret Poitevint, University of North Georgia.	
Jim Sarra, University of Illinois at Springfield.	
Leslie Schuemann, Heartland Conference.	
Chris Snyder, Seton Hill University.	
Jackson Stava, Seattle Pacific University.	
Natasha Wilson, Johnson C. Smith University.	
Robert Wyatt, Coker College.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Debbie Chin, Strategic Edge Athletic Consulting; Nancy Mitchell, Strategic Edge Athletic Consulting; Pennie Parker, Rollins College.	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Mike Bazemore, Amanda Conklin and Angela Red.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Madison Arndt, Geoff Bentzel, Terri Gronau, Maritza Jones, Melissa Marchini, Joan Nissen and Stephanie Quigg Smith.	