



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
APRIL 16, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

**1. 2020 SAAC Goals Discussion.** The committee was presented with possible goals to accomplish in 2020 based on the committee’s initial goals’ discussion at its January meeting. The committee decided to carry over the “Total Package Student-Athlete” concept to this year and continue to focus on diversity and inclusion, Love2Play, mental health and professional development. The committee will continue to use task forces for each category to allow progress to be made throughout the year. The task forces will report out to the committee during each quarterly meeting on their development.

- a. Diversity and Inclusion.** The diversity and inclusion task force plans to develop educational resources related to various diversity and inclusion topics. Each document will include information which will help the audience gain a better understanding of the topic that is being highlighted.
- b. Love2Play.** The Love2Play initiative is to encourage young athletes to participate in multiple sports and to have fun while they play. The task force plans to focus on brand building, which will include creating a logo specific to the Love2Play initiative. The task force also plans to complete a mission statement and create an informational document that will help with the branding of this initiative.
- c. Mental Health.** The mental health task force plans to utilize social media to share content. Ideas include producing TikTok videos and creating gifs for posting via social media. Further, the task force plans to roll out a campaign that will encourage member institutions and conferences to dedicate games to mental health awareness. During these games, the task force would like to consider encouraging teams to incorporate colors that reflect mental health awareness into their game attire.
- d. Professional Development.** The professional development task force is interested in contacting former student-athletes to provide testimonials sharing how they used their skills and experiences as student-athletes to succeed in their careers. The task

force also plans to finalize the format of an informational document that will cover topics related to professional development for student-athletes.

2. **Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Discussion.** The committee provided feedback on the legislative concepts related to the use of a student-athlete's NIL developed by the Division II Legislation Committee. The committee believes that student-athletes should be able to benefit from their NIL in a manner that is consistent with the NCAA Board of Governors' principles and guidelines and Division II philosophy. The committee will discuss legislative recommendations related to NIL that are put forward by the Legislation Committee during the July meeting.
3. **Discussion with NCAA President Mark Emmert.** The committee held an open dialogue with President Mark Emmert about the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on student-athletes and institutions in the spring semester. The committee shared with President Emmert the challenges that student-athletes are facing during these times.
4. **Feedback on Academic Requirements Committee Referral.** At the request of the Division II Academic Requirements Committee, the committee provided feedback related to institutions providing access to practice for nonqualifiers. The committee is in favor of nonqualifiers practicing with their team. By practicing, the committee believes nonqualifiers will feel like they are part of the team, which can help improve their mental, social and emotional health. This sense of belonging can help boost academic performance and give nonqualifiers additional incentive to excel in the classroom. In addition, participating in practice provides structure student-athletes usually enjoy. The committee also believes having nonqualifiers practice can benefit the team as a whole and lead to a greater sense of team unity.
5. **SAAC Super Region Convention Update.** The committee was provided an update on the cancelation of the April super region convention for the West Region due to COVID-19. NCAA staff will work to reschedule the program for institutions in the California Collegiate Athletic Association, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Lone Star Conference, Pacific West Conference and Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. An update was also provided for the super region convention for the Central Region scheduled for Nov. 20-22 in Chicago for institutions in the Great American Conference, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Great Midwest Athletic Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
6. **Division II Notification of Transfer Resource.** The committee finalized a notification of transfer document that can be used as an educational resource for all Division II student-athletes. This document highlights the changes in the transfer process, with the notification of transfer model replacing permission to contact. The document includes an FAQ section

highlighting several areas of the new legislation. The committee will work with NCAA staff to make this document available to Division II student-athletes soon.

7. **Make-A-Wish® Update.** The committee received a Make-A-Wish update. In Division II, 10 wish reveals have been completed in the 2019-20 academic year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, three reveals have been postponed, and the planning for one wish reveal is in progress. The committee was reminded of the donation process and was encouraged to continue communicating the process with their respective conferences and institutions.
8. **Team IMPACT® Update.** The committee was informed of the efforts of Team IMPACT to keep teams and children connected during the COVID-19 pandemic, which include holding virtual huddles with their teammates and QuarantEAM training for teams and student-athletes. The committee was also informed that Mackenzie O’Neill, Missouri Western State University, became the first Division II National SAAC representative to become a fellow for Team IMPACT.
9. **International University Sport Student-Athlete Survey.** The committee was asked to complete a survey distributed by the International University Sports Federation. The survey’s purpose is to determine awareness of international university sport in the United States, interest in the World University Games and suggestions on how to promote the event in the U.S. The results will be presented as part of a scholarly project, exploring how to increase the visibility of international university sport in the U.S.
10. **Division II Committee Reports.** Members representing Division II committees provided updates on their respective committees. The Division II committees represented were the Academic Requirements Committee, Championships Committee, Legislation Committee and Management Council.
11. **Association-Wide Committee Reports.** The committee was provided with updates on various Association-wide committees. The Association-wide committees represented were the Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee, Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, Olympic Sports Liaison Committee and Committee on Women’s Athletics.
12. **Conference Updates.** Each committee member provided an update of initiatives undertaken by their respective conferences and conference SAAC meetings.
13. **January 2020 Meeting Report.** The January 2020 meeting report was reviewed and approved by the committee.
14. **New Members.** The committee welcomed the following new members to the Division II SAAC:

- a. **At-Large** – Juston Bailey, Chestnut Hill College.
- b. **East Coast Conference** – Billy Wildeman, Molloy College.
- c. **Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference** – Ismael Contreras, Purdue University Northwest.
- d. **Great Midwest Athletic Conference** – Wiley Cain, Kentucky Wesleyan College.
- e. **Independent** – Leshlie A. Ramirez, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez.
- f. **Mountain East Conference** – Grace Martin, West Virginia State University.
- g. **Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference** – Angel Bautista-Ponce, Colorado Mesa University.
- h. **Sunshine State Conference** – Christian Leone, Nova Southeastern University.

**15. Future Meetings.**

- a. June 2020 conference call; date to be determined.
- b. July 16-17; SAAC/Management Council Summit, virtual.
- c. Fall 2020 conference call; date to be determined.
- d. Nov. 19-22, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Chicago.
- e. Jan. 12-16, 2021, in conjunction with NCAA Convention; Washington, D.C.
- f. April 9-11, 2021; virtual.
- g. July 16-18, 2021; SAAC/Management Council Summit, Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair: Alex Shillow, Texas A&M-Commerce, Lone Star Conference.*

*Staff Liaisons: Ryan Jones, Governance.*

*Amanda Benzine, Championships and Alliances.*

*Julie Sargent, Academic and Membership Affairs.*

*Michael Woo, Academic and Membership Affairs.*

<b><i>NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Videoconference, April 16, 2020</i></b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Absentees:</b>
Alexia Autrey, King University (Tennessee), Conference Carolinas	Father John Denning, Stonehill College, Northeast-10 Conference
Juston Bailey, Chestnut Hill College, At- Large	

<i>NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Videoconference, April 16, 2020</i>	
Attendees:	Absentees:
Angel Bautista-Ponce, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference	
Wiley Cain, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Great Midwest Athletic Conference	
Jessica Chapin, American International College, Northeast-10 Conference	
Ismael Contreras, Purdue University Northwest, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	
Gillian Edgar, Seattle Pacific University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference	
John Michael Etheridge, Kentucky State University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	
Olivia Faught, Southern Arkansas University, Great American Conference	
Grant Foley, Delta State University, Gulf South Conference	
Marty Gilbert, Mars Hill University, South Atlantic Conference	
Madison Heck, Georgian Court University, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference	
Teara Johnson, Winston-Salem State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	
Braydon Kubat, University of Minnesota Duluth, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Christian Leone, Nova Southeastern University, Sunshine State Conference	

<i>NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Videoconference, April 16, 2020</i>	
Attendees:	Absentees:
Grace Martin, West Virginia State University, Mountain East Conference	
Madeleine McKenna, California University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	
Mary Northcutt, Carson-Newman University, South Atlantic Conference	
Mackenzie O'Neill, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association	
Micaiah Paige, Morehouse College, At-Large	
Kate Pigsley, Southern New Hampshire University, Northeast-10 Conference	
Leshlie A. Ramirez, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Independent	
Jacob Renie, University of Indianapolis, Great Lakes Valley Conference	
Alexandria Rhodes, Georgia Southwestern State University, Peach Belt Conference	
Madison Schiller, California State University, East Bay, California Collegiate Athletic Association	
Alex Shillow, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Lone Star Conference	
Emma Svagdis, Azusa Pacific University, Pacific West Conference	
Billy Wildeman, Molloy College, East Coast Conference	

***NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Videoconference, April 16, 2020***

***Other Participants:***

Ashley Beaton, NCAA

Lydia Bell, NCAA

Michael Cioroianu, NCAA

Mark Emmert, NCAA

Chris Graham, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (chair, Management Council)

Terri Steeb Gronau, NCAA

Maritza Jones, NCAA

Corbin McGuire, NCAA

Stephanie Quigg, NCAA

Lisa Rogers, NCAA

Danielle Teetzel, NCAA

Karen Wolf, NCAA