



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 9-10, 2024, IN-PERSON MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Preparation for the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Business Session.** The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee reviewed its legislative positions for the 2024 Division II business session and voting policies and procedures.

The legislative proposals discussed are listed below. The committee reviewed all aspects of the proposed legislation in preparation for the business session.

- a. **NCAA Proposal No. 2024-1:** Playing and Practice Seasons – Football – Preseason Practice and First Contest – First Permissible Contest.
 - b. **Proposal No. 2024-2:** Playing and Practice Seasons – Softball – Number of Contests – Maximum Limitations – Institutional and Student-Athlete – Championship and Nonchampionship Contests.
 - c. **Proposal No. 2024-3:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships – Minimum Number of Sponsoring Institutions and Three-Year Grace Period.
 - d. **Proposal No. 2024-4:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Criteria for Selection of Participants – Automatic Qualification – Automatic Qualification in All Team Sports Other Than Football.
 - e. **Proposal No. 2024-5:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Criteria for Selection of Participants – Earned Access – Football – Earned Access for All Football-Sponsoring Conferences.
2. **Election of 2024 SAAC Executive Board.** The committee elected Dani Mabry (Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference) as chair of SAAC for 2024, Kara Amos (Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association) as vice chair, re-elected Cullen Dore (Francis Marion University, Conference Carolinas) as external communications coordinator, and elected Avery Hellmuth (Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference) as the internal operations coordinator.
 3. **Election of 2024 NCAA Division II Presidents Council Representatives.** The committee elected Katie Williamson (Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference) and re-elected Davaris Cheeks (Concordia University, St. Paul, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference) as the Presidents Council representatives for 2024. As of February 1, 2024, the Presidents Council will become the NCAA Division II Executive Board.

4. **Election of 2024 NCAA Division II Management Council Representatives.** The committee elected Courtney Medwin (West Chester University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference) and re-elected Austin Mondello (Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference) as the Management Council representatives for 2024.
5. **Election of 2024 NCAA Division II and Association-Wide Committee Representatives.** New representatives were selected to serve on various Division II and Association-wide committees.
 - a. Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, will serve on the Division II Legislation Committee as part of her vice chair responsibilities.
 - b. Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference, will serve on the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.
 - c. Alexis Devlin, Catawba College, South Atlantic Conference, will serve on the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.
 - d. Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference, will join Eddie Baker, at-large representative, on the NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee.
 - e. JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference, will join Laura Amaya, East Coast Conference, on the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group.
 - f. Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference, will serve on the Division II Academic Requirements Committee.
 - g. Myles Jackson, Queens College (New York), at-large representative, will remain on the NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee as the former Division II SAAC representative and will serve with current Division II SAAC members Eddie Baker and Haley Gilbert.
6. **New Appointments.** There are four new members joining the Division II SAAC: Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Derrick Parker II, Grand Valley State University, at-large representative; Alia Scotka, University of West Florida, Gulf South Conference; and Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University, at-large representative.
7. **Discussion with NCAA President Charlie Baker.** The committee met with President Charlie Baker for an open forum in which several topics were discussed, including Project Division I, sports wagering, key findings from the business review and congressional engagement initiatives.
8. **Discussion with the NCAA Board of Governors Chair and Board of Governors Division II Student-Athlete Representative.** The committee met with Board of Governors Chair

Linda Livingstone and Board of Governors Division II student-athlete representative Madeleine McKenna for an open forum in which several topics were discussed, including the NCAA's drug testing policy and banned substances list, media rights negotiations and sports wagering.

9. **Discussion with Division II Presidents Council Chair.** The committee met with Presidents Council Chair Steven Shirley to discuss hot topics within Division II, feedback on national SAAC's goals, thoughts about the future of the division, plans after his chair term concludes and advice on how to host members of Congress on campus.
10. **Discussion with NCAA Chief Medical Officer.** The committee received updates from Dr. Brian Hainline regarding amending the NCAA drug testing policy and banned substances list, progress and finalization of the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices second edition, NCAA transgender policy, prevention of cardiac arrest and the new NCAA Training and Performance Advisory Group.
11. **Discussion with NCAA Legal Affairs.** The committee received updates from the Director of Legal Affairs Jared Tidemann about the Division I transfer temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction. The committee also received updates related to other current litigation matters in the Division I space that could affect Division II as well as antitrust lawsuits, concussion litigation and student-athlete employment.
12. **Discussion about Sports Wagering.** The committee met with the Managing Director of Enterprise Risk Management Clint Hangebrauck and Managing Director of Enforcement Mark Hicks for a discussion about sports wagering and education on campuses. The committee was informed that the NCAA has launched an e-learning module with former student-athletes discussing sports wagering addiction prevention.
13. **Discussion on SAAC's Sixth Super Region Convention.** SAAC recapped the division's sixth SAAC Super Region Convention for conferences and institutions in the South and Southeast Regions November 17-19, 2023, at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, Georgia. Student-athletes and administrators from the Conference Carolinas, Gulf South Conference, Peach Belt Conference, South Atlantic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference attended. The committee discussed the attendees' survey feedback and the possibilities of changing speakers and topics for the April and November 2025 SAAC Super Region Conventions.
14. **Updates on 2023-24 SAAC Goals.** The committee discussed its progress towards the three E's – empowering student-athletes with resources, empathizing with their concerns and enhancing the student-athlete voice and experience – and creating teams dedicated to its goals. The committee discussed implementing term assignments for the teams but took no action. The committee suggested a SAAC liaison be assigned to each goal to help support the goals. The committee received updates on the progress of refreshing Division II's campus and conference SAAC guides and an update on available congressional engagement resources. The committee discussed Division I SAAC's employment status discussion resource and decided to not create a similar resource for Division II student-athletes at this time.

15. **Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award.** The Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award recognizes faculty members at Division II schools for their dedication to supporting and mentoring student-athletes, as well as their commitment to Division II student-athletes' lifelong learning, competition and well-being. The committee recognized Dr. George Taylor of Southwest Minnesota State University as the 2023 Faculty Mentor Award winner.
16. **2024 Award of Excellence.** The committee reviewed the finalists for the 2024 Division II Award of Excellence as selected by SAAC's Honors, Awards and Recognition Subcommittee. Roberts Wesleyan University was named the 2024 Division II Award of Excellence winner for its efforts with the Ugandan Water Project. Hawaii Pacific University received the runner-up prize for its The Shark Way initiative. The University of Virginia's College at Wise was the third-place recipient for its Kids Day Basketball Game.
17. **Presidents Council, Management Council, SAAC Joint Meeting.** The committee reviewed the agenda and discussed the information that would be covered during the Presidents Council, Management Council and SAAC joint meeting. Committee members had roundtable discussions about the Division II Operating Plan, results of the NCAA Student-Athlete Health and Wellness Survey and engaged in professional development.
18. **Leadership Development Opportunities.** Lamarr Pottinger, director of leadership development, and Mia Corners, leadership development postgraduate intern, spoke with the committee about opportunities for student-athletes through leadership development. The opportunities include the NCAA Career in Sports Forum, NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum and NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program.
19. **Make-A-Wish®.** The committee received an update on the 2024 Week of Wishes occurring February 17-24. During the week, institutions are encouraged to fundraise and raise awareness for the division's Make-A-Wish partnership.
20. **Team IMPACT®.** The committee was informed that Division II currently has 162 active Team IMPACT matches. In total, 634 children involving all 23 Division II conferences have been impacted since the partnership began. The committee also learned the 2024-25 Team IMPACT Fellowship application is now open. In 2023-24, Division II currently has 24 fellows on 14 campuses.
21. **Prepare Conference Meeting Summaries.** The committee reviewed discussion topics to be shared during conference meetings later in the week.
22. **November 2023 meeting report.** The November 2023 committee meeting report was reviewed and approved.
23. **Future Meetings.**
 - a. April 13-14, 2024, SAAC meeting; videoconference.
 - b. July 19-21, 2024, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit; Indianapolis.

- c. November 23-24, 2024; SAAC meeting; videoconference.
- d. January 14-18, 2025; in conjunction with 2025 NCAA Convention; Nashville, Tennessee.

Committee Chair: Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference
Staff Liaisons: Ryan Jones, Governance
Amanda Benzine, Women's Basketball
Marcus Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs
Megan McDonald, Academic and Membership Affairs
Becca Burchette Medel, Governance

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee January 9-10, 2024, Phoenix, Arizona	
Attendees:	
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.	
Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
Eddie Baker, The College of Saint Rose, At-Large.	
Scott Borgmann Jr., Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.	
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University, At-Large.	
Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.	
Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference.	
Alexis Devlin, Catawba College, South Atlantic Conference.	
Cullen Dore, Francis Marion University, Conference Carolinas.	
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference.	

Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo, Gulf South Conference.
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference.
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Myles Jackson, Queens College (New York), At-Large.
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference.
David Mayser, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Pacific West Conference.
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
Justin Zavala, Bowie State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
Absentees:
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.
Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference.
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas of Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.
Guests in Attendance:
Doug Blais, Robert Dranoff, Linda Livingstone, Madeleine McKenna, Carrie Michaels, Steven Shirley and Amy VanRyn.
NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Charlie Baker, Amanda Benzine, Marcus Brown, Michael Cioroianu, Mia Corners, Brian Hainline, Clint Hangebrauck, Mark Hicks, Kendee Hilliard, Ryan Jones, Megan McDonald, Becca Burchette Medel, John Parsons, Lamarr Pottinger, Anne Rohlman and Jared Tidemann.