

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 21-25, 2020 MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Preparation for the 2020 NCAA Convention Division II Business Session.** The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee reviewed its legislative positions and practiced proposal speeches for the 2020 Division II business session.

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

- Proposal No. 2020-1 (2-12): Division Membership, Financial Aid and Playing and Practice Seasons – Emerging Sports for Women – Acrobatics and Tumbling
- Proposal No. 2020-2 (2-13): Division Membership, Financial Aid and Playing and Practice Seasons – Emerging Sports for Women – Women’s Wrestling
- Proposal No. 2020-3 (2-3): Organization – Division II Presidents Council – Election/Term of Office – Six Year Term of Office and Three Year Chair and Vice Chair Term Limit
- Proposal No. 2020-4 (2-1): NCAA Membership – Active Membership and Member Conference – Conditions and Obligations of Membership – Athletics Diversity and Inclusion Designee
- Proposal No. 2020-5 (2-2): NCAA Membership – Member Conference – Composition of Active Conferences – Requirement for Current Conferences
- Proposal No. 2020-6 (2-4): Recruiting – Contacts and Evaluations – Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes – Notification of Transfer
- Proposal No. 2020-7 (2-5): Recruiting – Letter-of-Intent Programs, Financial Aid Agreements – Transcript Prior to National Letter of Intent or Written Offer of Athletics Aid – Elimination of Current Transcript Requirement
- Proposal No. 2020-8 (2-6): Recruiting – Tryouts – Permissible Activities – Tryouts – Exception – Length of Tryout Activities for Golf
- Proposal No. 2020-9 (2-7): Recruiting – Recruiting Calendars – Women’s Basketball – Extension of Spring Contact Period and Elimination of Evaluation Period at Nonscholastic Events Occurring Between May 18 Through June 14

- j. Proposal No. 2020-10 (2-8): Eligibility – Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule – Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility – Minimum Amount of Competition – Transfer From a Non-Division II Institution
 - k. Proposal No. 2020-11 (2-9): Eligibility – Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule – Hardship Waiver – Criteria for Hardship Waiver Calculation – Percent Calculation – Basketball – Inclusion of Conference Challenge Contests in the Percent Calculation and First Half of Season Calculation
 - l. Proposal No. 2020-12 (2-10): Playing and Practice Seasons – General Playing Season Regulations – Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities – Weekly Hour Limitations – Outside Of Playing Season – Fall Championship Sports – Fourth Day Of Classes
 - m. Proposal No. 2020-13 (2-11): Playing and Practice Seasons – Soccer – First Date of Competition – Championship Segment – Exception – Division II National Championships Fall Festival
2. **New Members.** The committee was informed of the seven new members who will join the committee in April: Juston Bailey, Chestnut Hill College, At-Large; Angel Bautista-Ponce, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; Ismael Contreras, Purdue University Northwest, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Christian Leone, Nova Southeastern University, Sunshine State Conference; Grace Martin, West Virginia State University, Mountain East Conference; Leshlie A. Ramirez , University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Independent; and James (Billy) Wildeman, Molloy College, East Coast Conference.
 3. **Election of the 2020 Management Council Representatives.** The committee elected Division II Management Council representatives for 2020: Braydon Kubat, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, and Madeleine McKenna, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
 4. **Election of 2020 SAAC Executive Board.** The committee re-elected Alex Shillow, Lone Star Conference, as chair of national SAAC for 2020. The committee also elected the following individuals to executive board positions Mackenzie O’Neill, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, vice chair; Olivia Faught, Great American Conference, external communications coordinator; and Kate Pigsley, Northeast-10 Conference, internal operations coordinator.
 5. **Election of 2020 NCAA Division II and Association-Wide Committee Representatives.** New representatives were selected to serve on various Division II and Association-wide committees.

- a. Gillian Edgar, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, will serve on the NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee.
 - b. John Michael Etheridge, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, will serve on the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.
 - c. Mary Northcutt, South Atlantic Conference, was selected to serve on the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.
 - d. Mackenzie O’Neill, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, will serve on the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee as part of her vice chair responsibilities.
 - e. Kristina Ortiz, Sunshine State Conference, will serve on the NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee as a former student-athlete.
 - f. Micaiah Paige, At-Large Representative, was selected to serve on the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.
 - g. Emma Svagdis, Pacific West Conference, was selected to serve on the NCAA Committee on Women’s Athletics.
6. **Discussion with NCAA Executive Team.** President Mark Emmert and Chief Operating Officer/Chief Legal Officer Donald Remy met with SAAC to update the committee on several items, including campus sexual violence; mental health; name, image and likeness; and sports wagering.
 7. **Discussion with Presidents Council Chair.** The committee met with President Gary Olson, Presidents Council chair, to discuss several topics, including campus sexual violence, mental health, and name, image and likeness.
 8. **Name, Image and Likeness.** The committee discussed concepts that could be evaluated as potential changes to current name, image and likeness (NIL) legislation. The committee realizes NIL is a complex issue and is not in favor of a pay-for-play model. The committee acknowledges they are student-athletes and they want to compete against student-athletes.

The committee believes student-athletes should have the same opportunities as general students have when it comes to using their NIL, except when those opportunities are designed to influence recruiting or are a substitute for “pay-for-play”. The committee believes that a student-athlete should have the opportunity to promote their product or business regardless of whether it has an athletics tie. However, the committee doesn’t believe student-athletes should be able to use their institution’s name, logo, conference logo or NCAA logo in their promotion of the product or business.

SAAC members were encouraged to distribute [this information sheet on NIL](#).

9. **Feedback on Academic Requirements Committee Referral.** The committee discussed a referral from the Division II Academic Requirements Committee pertaining to NCAA Bylaw 14.3.1.6.1 (eligibility for aid, practice and competition – nonqualifier). ARC asked for the SAAC’s feedback on a potential legislative change to permit nonqualifiers to receive athletics aid in the first year of enrollment. The committee expressed support for nonqualifiers receiving athletics aid in their first year of enrollment. The committee also believes it is beneficial for student-athletes who are ineligible, to practice as they work to gain their eligibility. In particular, the committee believes it is important for the student-athletes’ mental health. Further, given that 97 percent of initial-eligibility waivers were granted access to athletics aid at a minimum, the committee believes institutions should not need to file a waiver, which creates work for compliance administrators and coaches.
10. **SAAC Super Region Convention.** Since the SAAC Super Region Conventions started, the super region conventions have been held in conjunction with the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum, hosted by NCAA Leadership Development. After weighing the positives and negatives of continuing to host the super region convention at the same location and over the same days as the leadership forum, the committee formally decided that it would like to host super region conventions as stand-alone programs starting in 2021. The committee also discussed the upcoming super region convention, which will be held April 16-19 in Los Angeles. After reviewing the draft schedule for the event, the group finalized their roles and responsibilities for the convention, and topics of discussion for keynote speakers.
11. **Review of 2019 SAAC Initiatives and Goals.** The committee reviewed the progress made by each task force in accomplishing its 2019 initiatives and goals, which were categorized as the Total Package Student-Athlete. The committee discussed which goals were completed and which should continue to be emphasized in 2020.
 - a. **Diversity and Inclusion.** The diversity and inclusion task force is interested in learning more about Division III’s LGBTQ OneTeam initiative and how it was created.
 - b. **Love2Play.** The Love2Play initiative encourages young athletes to participate in multiple sports to break the trend of sports specialization and have fun, while they play. The task force has started to interview coaches, student-athletes and administrators to gain more information and perspective about the benefits of playing multiple sports. The task force plans to create a one-page document that would be shared with the Division II membership. The task force believes the resource could be useful to Division II coaches, who could share it with parents and young athletes at camps and clinics. The task force also plans to create short videos for promotion of the initiative on social media.

- c. **Mental Health.** The mental health task force plans to issue a social media video challenge, using #D2SAACSpeakUp, to help break the stigma of mental health issues within college athletics. Submitted videos would share personal stories and coping mechanisms. The task force would like for the video challenge winner to have their video shown during the 2020 NCAA Division II National Championships Festival.
 - d. **Professional Development.** The professional development task force is interested in creating a resource for student-athletes that would help promote the NCAA [After the Game](#) program. The task force encouraged conferences to add professional development as an agenda item on their SAAC meeting agendas. Student-athletes on campus are encouraged to network with former student-athletes in their chosen career, to participate in career fairs and workshops, and to utilize the NCAA After the Game resources.
12. **Open Forum on 2020 SAAC Initiatives and Goals.** The committee discussed possible goals for 2020, which will be finalized at the April meeting.
 13. **NCAA Policy on Campus Sexual Violence.** The committee reviewed and discussed the NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence.
 14. **Make-A-Wish®.** The committee was updated on the progress of the Week of Wishes Toolkit, which is expected to be finalized and distributed in the spring. The 2020 Week of Wishes is scheduled for Feb. 15-23. There have been two Wish reveals completed this academic year. Several reveals are scheduled for late winter and early spring. An additional four reveals are still in the planning stages.
 15. **Team IMPACT®.** The committee received an update on Team IMPACT's strategic plan, where several phases of research are being completed. Team IMPACT recently hit a milestone of 2,000 matches. Division II has formed 481 matches all time with Team IMPACT and 46 of those matches have occurred thus far in the 2019-20 academic year. The committee was informed about the Team IMPACT fellowship, as the application process opens soon for the fall 2020 fellowship opportunity.
 16. **Association-Wide SAAC Luncheon.** The committee was joined by Divisions I and III SAACs for a joint lunch that included a question and answer session with NCAA Board of Governors Chair Michael Drake and the five independent members of the Board of Governors. The topics addressed included NIL, sexual violence prevention and mental health. The committees also received an update from representatives from the College Sports Information Directors of America. CoSIDA encouraged the committees to consider exploring the athletics communications profession as a career. The group also encouraged student-athletes to develop a relationship with their athletics communications director to help tell their story, team accomplishments and community engagement activities.

17. **NCAA Transfer Portal.** The committee was provided an update on the data and trends of the NCAA Transfer Portal. The current transfer numbers indicate that there has not been a significant increase in the number of transfers since the portal was created. The committee also discussed common misconceptions about the Transfer Portal, emphasizing that it is not a recruiting service or a way for a student-athlete to become immediately eligible upon transfer.
18. **Sport Science Institute.** The committee received an update from the Sport Science Institute regarding initiatives that are currently taking place.
19. **2019 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award.** The 2019 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award was awarded to Dr. Bennett Cherry of California State University, San Marcos, who was honored at a reception during the Convention. Prior to the reception, the committee reviewed the agenda and expectations for hosting the reception. The committee also reviewed the procedures and processes undertaken by the Honors, Awards, and Recognition Subcommittee for selecting the overall winner.
20. **Award of Excellence.** The committee reviewed the finalists for the 2020 Division II Award of Excellence as selected by SAAC's Community Engagement Subcommittee and Honors, Awards and Recognition Subcommittee. Third place was awarded to Mercyhurst University, which held a fundraiser in honor of longtime men's ice hockey equipment manager Mike Folga, who was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. Second place was awarded to Holy Names University, for HawkMania, a wrestling event hosted by the athletics department that raised \$10,000 for Make-A-Wish. First place was awarded to Virginia State University for partnering with Samaritan's Feet International to provide 300 new pairs of athletic shoes and socks to students at Cool Spring Elementary in Petersburg, Virginia.
21. **Presidents Council, Management Council, SAAC Joint Breakfast.** The committee reviewed the agenda and discussed the information that would be covered during the Presidents Council, Management Council and SAAC joint breakfast, which focused on the 2019 GOALS Study.
22. **Prepare Conference Meeting Summaries.** The committee reviewed discussion topics to be shared during the conference meetings held at the Convention.
23. **2020 Division II National Championships Festival.** The committee received an update on the 2020 National Championships Festival, scheduled to be held in St. Louis, May 11-16.
24. **Division II Degree Completion Award Program.** The committee was provided an update on the Division II Degree Completion Award Program. The NCAA established the award to provide deserving student-athletes financial assistance for them to complete their first baccalaureate degree. Application submissions will close Saturday, Feb. 1.

25. **Conference Updates.** Each committee member gave an update on their respective conference SAAC meetings, initiatives and events.
26. **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 Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. Committee members serving on these committees discussed the most recent developments from their respective committees.
27. **Association-Wide Committee Reports.** Members representing Association-wide committees provided updates on their respective committees. The Association-wide committees represented were the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Committee on Women's Athletics, Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, Olympic Sports Liaison Committee and the Student-Athlete Engagement Committee.
28. **November 2019 meeting report.** The November 2019 committee meeting report was reviewed and approved.
29. **Recognition of Outgoing SAAC Representatives.** Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, SAAC recognized the service of outgoing representatives: Shonté Cargill, Bluefield State College, Independent; Nicholas Ely, Notre Dame College (Ohio), Mountain East Conference; Deiontae Nicholas, Wayne State University (Michigan), Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Jack Nicholson, St. Thomas Aquinas College, East Coast Conference; Kristina Ortiz, Lynn University, Sunshine State Conference; Joshua Shapiro, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; Tayler Stover, Rogers State University, At-Large; and Lauren Yacks, University of Findlay, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
30. **Future Meetings.**
 - a. April 16-19, 2020, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Los Angeles.
 - b. July 17-19, 2020; SAAC/Management Council Summit; Indianapolis.
 - c. Fall 2020 conference call; Date to be determined.
 - d. Nov. 19-22, 2020, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Chicago.
 - e. Jan. 12-16, 2021, in conjunction with 2021 NCAA Convention; Washington D.C.
 - f. April 9-11, 2021; Indianapolis
 - g. July 16-18; SAAC/Management Council Summit; Indianapolis

- h. Fall 2021 conference call; date to be determined.

Committee Chair: Alex Shillow, Texas A&M University-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

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting, January 21-25, 2020	
Attendees	Absentees
Shonté Cargill, Bluefield State College, Independent	Alexia Autrey, King University (Tennessee), Conference Carolinas
Father John Denning, Stonehill College, Northeast-10 Conference	Jessica Chapin, American International College, Northeast-10 Conference
Gillian Edgar, Seattle Pacific University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference	Teara Johnson, Winston-Salem State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association
Nicholas Ely, Notre Dame College (Ohio), Mountain East Conference	Mary Northcutt, Carson-Newman University, South Atlantic Conference
John Michael Etheridge, Kentucky State University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	Madison Schiller, California State University, East Bay, California Collegiate Athletic Association
Olivia Faught, Southern Arkansas University, Great American Conference	Joshua Shapiro, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic 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	
Braydon Kubat, University of Minnesota Duluth, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Madeleine McKenna, California University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	
Deiontae Nicholas, Wayne State University (Michigan), Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	

<i>NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting, January 21-25, 2020</i>	
Attendees	Absentees
Jack Nicholson, St. Thomas Aquinas College, East Coast Conference	
Mackenzie O'Neill, Missouri Western State University, Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association	
Kristina Ortiz, Lynn University, Sunshine State Conference	
Micaiah Paige, Morehouse College, At-Large	
Kate Pigsley, Southern New Hampshire University, Northeast-10 Conference	
Jacob Renie, University of Indianapolis, Great Lakes Valley Conference	
Alexandria Rhodes, Georgia Southwestern State University, Peach Belt Conference	
Alex Shillow, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Lone Star Conference	
Taylor Stover, Rogers State University, At-Large	
Emma Svagdis, Azusa Pacific University, Pacific West Conference	
Lauren Yacks, University of Findlay, Great Midwest Athletic Conference	
Other Participants:	
Sam Atkinson, CoSIDA	Josh Manck, CoSIDA
Ashley Beaton, NCAA	Denis McDonough, Board of Governors
Ken Chenault, Board of Governors	Vivek Murthy, Board of Governors
Michael Cioroianu, NCAA	Gary Olson, Daemen College
Mary Sue Coleman, Board of Governors	John Parsons, NCAA
Michael Drake, Board of Governors	Susan Peal, NCAA
Mark Emmert, NCAA	Jessica Poole, CoSIDA
Kimberly Fort, NCAA	Cindy Potter, CoSIDA
Terri Steeb Gronau, NCAA	Donald Remy, NCAA
Brian Hainline, NCAA	Lisa Rogers, NCAA
Grant Hill, Board of Governors	Amy VanRyn, Team IMPACT
Maritza Jones, NCAA	Doug Vance, CoSIDA
Rob Knox, CoSIDA	Herb Vincent, CoSIDA
Laura Liesman, Georgian Court University	Karen Wolf, NCAA