REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 10-11, 2023, IN-PERSON MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Preparation for the 2023 NCAA Convention Division II Business Session. The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee reviewed its legislative positions for the 2023 Division II business session as well as 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.


e. Proposal No. 2023-5 (2-12): Executive Regulations – Administration of NCAA Championships – Availability of Alcoholic Beverages at Division II Championships.


g. Proposal No. 2023-7 (2-4): Division II Organizational Structure – Presidents Council – Management Council – Administrative Committee – Planning and Finance Committee.


l. **Proposal No. 2023-12 (2-11):** Playing and Practice Seasons – General Playing - Season Regulations and Basketball – Basketball First Permissible Practice Date.

2. **Updates regarding Proposal No. 2023-6 (2-1): Emerging Sports for Women – Stunt.** The committee received updates regarding new information surrounding stunt and a recommendation from the NCAA Committee on Women’s Athletics for the three divisions to refer the proposal back to CWA for further discussion. After careful consideration, SAAC decided it would continue to support Proposal No. 2023-6 at the Division II business session if it was not referred back by the Division II Presidents Council.

3. **Election of 2023 SAAC Executive Board.** The committee elected Emma Kramer, (Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Simon Fraser University) as chair of SAAC for 2023, Molly Hansen (Gulf South Conference, University of Montevallo) as vice chair, Cullen Dore (Conference Carolinas, Francis Marion University) as external communications coordinator, and Maggie Langheim (South Atlantic Conference, Mars Hill University) and Kara Amos (Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, Missouri Southern State University) as the internal operations coordinator in staggered terms. Ms. Langheim will serve in this role until her term on SAAC ends in April, when Ms. Amos will take over the position.

4. **Election of the 2023 Management Council Representatives.** The committee elected Emma Kramer (Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Simon Fraser) and re-elected Corbin Thaete (California Collegiate Athletic Association, California State University, San Marcos) as the Division II Management Council representatives for 2023.

5. **Election of 2023 NCAA Division II and Association-Wide Committee Representatives.** New representatives were selected to serve on various Division II and Association-wide committees.

   a. Dani Mabry, Great Lakes Valley Conference, will serve on the Division II Academic Requirements Committee and the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.
b. Molly Hansen, Gulf South Conference, will serve on the Division II Legislation Committee as part of her vice-chair responsibilities.

c. Myles Jackson, At-Large, will join Thomas Webb Jr., Lone Star Conference, and Kate Pigsley, Northeast-10 Conference, on the NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee and serve on the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group.

d. David Mayser, Pacific West Conference, will serve on the NCAA Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity and the NCAA Concussion Safety Advisory Group.

e. Austin Mondello, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, will serve on the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.

f. Shani Idlette, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, will serve on the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct and the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.

g. Laura Amaya, East Coast Conference, will serve on the NCAA Committee on Women’s Athletics and join Myles Jackson on the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group.

6. Discussion on SAAC Elections Process. The committee took action to update its election process in its policies and procedures. SAAC decided to add a hard nominations deadline for leadership opportunities, with the exception of accepting nominations if there is an unexpected opening. The committee voted in favor of executive board members serving on additional standing committees, both Division II and Association wide, if elected to the position. The committee also acted to remove its current policy that members must serve a full year on the committee before running for the Division II Presidents Council or Management Council. Committee members can now run for a position on either council regardless of how long they have served on SAAC.

7. New Appointments. There are five new members joining the Division II SAAC: Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference; Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference; Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference; Tanner Olson, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; and K’ymon Pope, Virginia State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

8. Discussion with 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 NIL, student-
athletes as employees, incoming NCAA President Charlie Baker and the Board of Governors’ work on congressional engagement and action.

9. **Discussion with Division II Presidents Council Chair.** The committee met with Presidents Council Chair Steven Shirley to discuss hot topics within Division II, the proposed new composition of the Presidents Council, the role of the student-athletes on the council and how they can best serve, opportunities for international student-athletes and the Board of Governors’ work on congressional engagement and action.

10. **Discussion with NCAA Chief Medical Officer.** The committee received updates from Dr. Brian Hainline regarding the cannabis summit and the work of the Mental Health Advisory Group.

11. **Discussion with NCAA Legal Affairs.** The committee received updates from the Director of Legal Affairs Jared Tidemann about current litigation matters in the Division I space that could affect Division II and current Division II litigation. The committee also received updates related to NIL for international student-athletes and the litigation surrounding stunt.

12. **Update on NCAA Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action.** NCAA Senior Vice President of Governance, Policy, and Human Resources Cari Van Senus and Vice President of Academic and Membership Affairs Dave Schnase shared updates with the committee on the work of the NCAA Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action. The work includes prioritizing three main asks of Congress to aid in the work of the challenges and issues facing the Association. The core issues facing the Association include consequences associated with an employment-based model for college athletes, the implications of state-by-state patchwork legal governance and the need for clear national standards to ensure a level playing field.

13. **Joint SAAC Lunch with Incoming NCAA President and Bonnie Bernstein.** The committee prepared talking points for the joint lunch that took place with Division I and Division III national SAACs, incoming NCAA President Charlie Baker and Bonnie Bernstein. The three national SAACs shared the concerns of their divisions along with the initiatives each committee is working on to incoming President Baker. The committee also heard from Bernstein about her career in sports. Members of each committee had the opportunity to ask questions about her life after athletics.

14. **NCAA Sport Science Institute Mental Health Update.** The NCAA Sport Science Institute and leading mental health organizations across the country developed a seminal publication in support of student-athlete mental health and wellness known as the Interassociation Consensus Document: Best Practices for Understanding and Supporting Student-Athlete Mental Wellness. The document is designed to offer resources and recommendations for member schools to support and promote student-athlete mental wellness in partnership with campus stakeholders. The three national SAACs and the Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee are preparing to announce a joint statement outlining the urgency around mental health, the inclusion of mental health in
the new NCAA Constitution and the work of the Mental Health Advisory Group. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports is planning to release a complementary statement in support of the student-athlete statement.

15. **NCAA Coaches Well-Being Study Update.** SAAC was presented with a summary of the Division II results of the NCAA Coaches Well-Being Study.

16. **SAAC to Host Fifth Super Region Convention.** SAAC will host the division’s fifth super region convention for conferences and institutions in the Atlantic and East regions April 14-16, 2023, at the Westin in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Each Division II active member institution in the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, East Coast Conference, Mountain East Conference, Northeast-10 Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and the super region’s independent institutions will have an opportunity to send two student-athletes and one administrator. In addition, all six participating conferences may send a conference office administrator.

17. **Updates on 2022-23 SAAC Goals.** The committee received an update on a couple deliverables that were recently completed by SAAC’s mental health and Life After the Game task forces. The mental health task force discussed its mental health newsletter. The Life After the Game task force recapped its most recent Champions for Life podcasts.

18. **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 Dean Frantsvog of Minot State University as the 2022 Faculty Mentor Award winner.

19. **2023 Award of Excellence.** The committee reviewed the finalists for the 2023 Division II Award of Excellence as selected by SAAC’s Community Engagement Subcommittee and Honors, Awards and Recognition Subcommittee. Minnesota State University Moorhead was named the 2023 Division II Award of Excellence winner for its efforts honoring the late Joe Keller, a MSU Moorhead superfan, student, athletics intern and friend to many in the community. Cedarville University received the runner-up prize for its Yellowjacket Virtual Reading Program. Roberts Wesleyan University was the third-place winner for its partnership with Rise Against Hunger, an international humanitarian organization.

20. **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 work of the Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action and professional development.

21. **Leadership Development Opportunities.** Lamarr Pottinger, associate director of leadership development, 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 the NCAA Postgraduate Internship Program.

22. **Visit from Kevin Carroll.** The committee met with the Division II keynote speaker Kevin Carroll. Carroll introduced his story to SAAC and gave the committee background on himself both professionally and personally. He emphasized the power of play and shared his message on the Red Rubber Ball.

23. **Make-A-Wish®.** The committee received an update on the 2023 Week of Wishes occurring February 18-25. During the week, institutions are encouraged to fundraise and raise awareness for the division’s Make-A-Wish partnership.

24. **Team IMPACT®.** The committee was informed that Division II currently has 134 active matches involving Team IMPACT children and 23 matches have been made with Division II teams since the start of the 2022-23 academic year. The committee also learned the 2023-24 Team IMPACT Fellowship application is now open.

25. **Prepare Conference Meeting Summaries.** The committee reviewed discussion topics to be shared during conference meetings later in the week.

26. **Conference Updates.** Each committee member gave an update on their respective conference SAAC meetings, initiatives and events.

27. **New SAAC Member.** SAAC welcomed Myles Jackson, a cross country and indoor/outdoor track and field student-athlete from Queens College (New York) as the newest at-large representative.

28. **November 2022 meeting report.** The November 2022 committee meeting report was reviewed and approved.

29. **Future Meetings.**
   a. April 13-16, 2023, in conjunction with the SAAC Super Region Convention; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
   b. July 14-16, 2023; SAAC/Management Council Summit; Indianapolis.
   c. Nov. 16-19, 2023, in conjunction with the SAAC Super Region Convention; Atlanta, Georgia.
   d. Jan. 9-13, 2023, in conjunction with 2024 NCAA Convention; Phoenix, Arizona.

*Committee Chair: Wiley Cain, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Great Midwest Athletic Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Ryan Jones, Governance*

*Amanda Benzine, Women’s Basketball*
### NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

**January 10-11, 2023, San Antonio, Texas**

#### Attendees:
- Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.
- Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
- Michaela Boyd, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.
- Wiley Cain, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
- Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
- Ismael Contreras, Purdue University Northwest, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- Marty Gilbert, Mars Hill University, South Atlantic Conference.
- Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo, Gulf South 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.
- Margaret Ann Langheim, Mars Hill University, South Atlantic Conference.
- Bianca Lockamy, Virginia Union University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
- Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference.
- Grace Martin, West Virginia State University, Mountain East 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.
- Leshlie Ramirez, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Independent.
- Skylar Ross, Dominican University (New York), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.
- Corbin Thaete, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
- Thomas Webb Jr., Western New Mexico University, Lone Star Conference.
- Kiana Wiggins, Caldwell University, At-Large.
- Sandra Woodley, University of Texas of Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.

#### Absentees:
- Zach Brown, University of North Georgia, Peach Belt Conference.
- Nicholas Dill, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Great American Conference.
- Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference.

#### Guests in attendance:
- Charlie Baker, Bonnie Bernstein, Doug Blais, Kevin Carroll, Leah Davis, Linda Livingstone, Madeleine McKenna, Steven Shirley and Amy VanRyn.

#### NCAA Staff Members in Attendance: