



**REPORT OF THE NCAA
DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 6, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. **Name, Image and Likeness Discussion.** The committee discussed a request for feedback from the Division II Legislation Committee related to direct institutional name, image and likeness (NIL) and required reporting. The committee did not express interest in the ability to enter into an NIL agreement with their institution. There was concern that this idea could incentivize student-athletes to attend schools that offer their student-athletes the best NIL agreements and the potential risk for dividing a school's student-athletes based on the level of their NIL agreement. Even though the committee was opposed to direct institutional NIL in general, committee members discussed and conducted straw polls on the remaining questions. The committee expressed support for a third-party organization affiliated with their institution to be permitted to enter into NIL agreements directly with student-athletes. There was mixed feedback on whether an outside entity, apart from the NCAA, their institution or conference, should be responsible for ensuring the compensation student-athletes are receiving for their NIL is fair and equitable. The committee stated this could assist in protecting student-athletes and has potential to eliminate bias since the outside entity would have no affiliation with an institution or conference. There was concern that this may lead to overlooking the individual differences of student-athletes while also interfering with the timing of NIL deals. The committee was in favor of having an outside entity that has oversight at a national level certify the validity of NIL agreements that student-athletes enter. The committee supported the idea that student-athletes should be required to report any NIL agreements that are \$600 or more to their institution or conference and reporting should be the student-athletes' responsibility. The committee expressed support for institutions using content that was created while they were a student-athlete even if it is used after they exhaust their eligibility. Lastly, the committee unanimously opposed the idea of permitting institutions to enter into NIL agreements with high school student-athletes prior to their enrollment in college.
2. **External Communications Coordinator Election.** The committee elected Rachel McCool (Great Midwest Athletic Conference, Ashland University) to its external communications coordinator position. She will serve in the role through the January 2026 NCAA Convention and may elect to run for the same position during the committee's January elections.
3. **Legislative Grids Deadlines Reminder.** The committee was reminded of the legislative grids that campus SAACs will complete and share with their national SAAC representative by an updated deadline of Monday, October 20. National SAAC representatives should now send their conference's completed legislative grids to Scout Huffman, vice chair of the national SAAC, by Monday, October 27. The committee will review the feedback from the legislative grids and determine its official position on the 2026 Convention proposals during its November meeting.

4. **2025-26 Goals Update.** The committee received a brief update on SAAC's 2025-26 goals. The committee was separated into two task forces for the fall, one task force focused on community engagement and the second task force focused on strengthening communication. The community engagement subcommittee will pause its work, with community engagement being one of SAAC's goal themes for 2025-26.
5. **Community and Belonging Social Media Campaign.** The committee received an update on the community and belonging social media campaign. This two-day event will take place November 5 and 6. The campaign celebrates the authentic voices and experiences of student-athletes, inviting them to share the impact that belonging and community has had on them. National SAAC was reminded of the importance of their role in this campaign and was encouraged to help promote it on their campuses. For more information on the campaign, the committee was encouraged to access the webpage [here](#).
6. **Future Meetings.**
 - a. November 20-23, 2025, in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Denver.
 - b. January 12-16, 2026, in conjunction with the 2026 Convention; Washington, D.C.
 - c. April 11-12, 2026, SAAC meeting; videoconference.
 - d. July 17-18, 2026, SAAC meeting; Indianapolis.
 - e. July 18-19, 2026, Management Council and SAAC Summit; Indianapolis.
 - f. November 21-22, 2026, SAAC meeting; videoconference.

Committee Chair: Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Ryan Jones, Governance and Member Services
Marcus Brown, Governance and Member Services
Morgan Melchert, Eligibility Center
Katie Mucci, Governance and Member Services
Megan Villanueva, Governance and Member Services

Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee October 6, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Sean Belzer, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.	
Scott Borgmann Jr., Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.	

Yahir Chairez-Salazar, Colorado School of Mines, At-Large.
Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference.
Darcey Dorris, Central State University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Connor Fournier, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference.
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference.
Mariah Hughes, Point Loma Nazarene University, Pacific West Conference.
Zeke Jarzyniecki, Belmont Abbey College, Conference Carolinas.
Mário Kirkov, Eckerd College, Sunshine State Conference.
Ryan Lovelace, Lee University, Gulf South Conference.
Vivian Martinez, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
Rita-Marie Masi, Mercy University, East Coast Conference.
Abbie McCants, Coker University, South Atlantic Conference.
Rachel McCool, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.
Emma Neal, Maryville University of Saint Louis, Great Lakes Valley Conference.
Derrick Parker II, Grand Valley State University, At-Large.
Rowan Ruggerio, American International College, Northeast-10 Conference.
Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
Lily Ventresca, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University, At-Large.
Gabe Zeldes, Wayne State University (Michigan), Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletics Conference.
Absentees:
Adoriyan Daniels, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Larry Parkinson, Executive Board Independent Member
Guests in Attendance:
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Marcus Brown, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Katie Mucci, Angela Red, Megan Villanueva and Courtney Wengryn.