

# REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 7, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

## **ACTION ITEMS.**

None.

# INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Overview of 2026 NCAA Convention Division II Legislation and Legislative Grids. The committee was provided an overview of the 2026 NCAA Convention legislative proposals that are sponsored by the Division II governance structure and the Division II membership and developed pros and cons for nearly all the proposals it did not discuss at its July meeting. The committee also received an overview of the legislative grids that campus SAACs will complete and share with their national SAAC representative by Monday, October 13. National SAAC representatives should send their conference's completed legislative grids to Scout Huffman, national SAAC vice chair, by Monday, October 20. National SAAC will review the feedback from the legislative grids and determine its official positions on the 2026 Convention proposals during its November meeting.
- 2. SCORE Act Letters to Members of Congress. The committee received an update from Austin Meo, assistant director of government relations, on encouraging conference and campus SAACs to advocate for the SCORE Act. Several resources were discussed, including next steps for SAACs who write a letter to members of Congress, a template letter that SAACs can personalize to reflect their thoughts and experiences, and a student-athlete advocacy toolkit. The committee was encouraged to email questions to Mr. Meo at ameo@ncaa.org.
- **3. SAAC Network.** SAAC members were reminded to update their conference's SAAC network for the 2025-26 academic year with changes to their campus SAAC advisors and presidents and conference SAAC liaison by September 15. If there are questions or committee members need best practices for this initiative, they were encouraged to reach out to fellow committee members or Ryan Jones at <a href="mailto:rjones@ncaa.org">rjones@ncaa.org</a>.

# 4. Future Meetings.

- a. October 2025; date to be determined; videoconference.
- b. November 20-23, 2025; in conjunction with SAAC Super Region Convention; Denver.
- c. January 12-16, 2026; in conjunction with the 2026 NCAA Convention; Washington, D.C.

- d. April 11-12, 2026; SAAC meeting; videoconference.
- e. July 17-18, 2026; SAAC meeting; Indianapolis.
- f. July 18-19, 2026; Management Council and SAAC Summit; Indianapolis.

g. November 21-22, 2026; SAAC meeting; videoconference.

Committee Chair: Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference

Staff Liaisons: Ryan Jones, Governance and Member Services

Marcus Brown, Governance and Member Services Katie Mucci, Governance and Member Services

Morgan Melchert, Eligibility Center

Megan Villanueva, Governance and Member Services

# NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee September 7, 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.

Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference.

Adoriyan Daniels, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

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.

Rita-Marie Masi, Mercy University, East Coast Conference.

Vivian Martinez, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California Collegiate Athletic Association.

Abbie McCants, Coker University, South Atlantic Conference.

Rachel McCool, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.

Report of the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee September 7, 2025, Videoconference Page No. 3

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 Ruggiero, 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 Athletic Conference.

### Absentees:

Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.

Larry Parkinson, Executive Board Independent Member.

## **Guests in Attendance:**

Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).

## NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Chelsea Hooks, Ryan Jones, Morgan Melchert, Austin Meo, Katie Mucci, Angela Red, Megan Villanueva and Courtney Wengryn.