



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
AUGUST 19, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- **Division II championships streaming.**
 - a. Recommendation. Allocate \$150,000 from the FY25 surplus for championships streaming for 2025-26; further, allocate \$10,000 from the FY25 surplus to retain a social media contractor to promote preliminary rounds for the 2025-26 championships.
 - b. Effective date. Immediate.
 - c. Rationale. As the division works to determine the best approach to offering its digital content going forward, the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee is recommending that a third party be allowed to stream the Division II championship preliminary-round contests in 2025-26 not already contractually obligated to be shown on ESPN or CBS and offer that content on a single platform free of charge to viewers. The \$150,000 from the division's FY25 surplus will fund operational costs for the streaming platform. The committee also supports allocating \$10,000 to hire a social media contractor to promote preliminary rounds for the 2025-26 championships and also market this streaming platform in 2025-26 to extend the division's promotional reach.
 - d. Estimated budget impact. \$160,000.
 - e. Student-athlete impact. The recommended allocations support an opportunity to showcase student-athlete excellence in championships competition and extend the division's brand through accessible digital content.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and review of agenda.** Strategic Planning and Finance Committee Chair Julie Ruppert welcomed the group and previewed key agenda items.
- 2. Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its June 23 videoconference as presented.

3. General Division II budget items.

- a. Budget Guidelines and Principles.** The committee reviewed and approved the updates to the Budget Guidelines and Principles that include codifying the new policy regarding National Collegiate Championships stability in which division-specific championships established from an existing National Collegiate Championship cannot begin until two National Collegiate Championships have occurred. That policy has been approved by both the Management Council and the Executive Board based on the SPFC's recommendation in June.
- b. Division II streaming update.** The committee discussed streaming opportunities for Division II championships in 2025-26 and agreed to recommend allocating \$150,000 from the FY25 surplus for championships streaming for 2025-26, and \$10,000 from the FY25 surplus to retain a social media contractor to promote preliminary rounds for the 2025-26 championships. (See Action Item 2.)

4. Division II championships budget items.

- a. Establishment of a Division II Women's Bowling Championship.** Staff informed the committee that the Management Council and Executive Board approved the Championships Committee's recommendation to sponsor 2026 NCAA Convention legislation to establish a Division II Women's Bowling Championship beginning in 2028 (in accordance with the two-year waiting period required by the National Collegiate Championships stability policy). Given the timing of the recommendation and subsequent approvals, which came between the SPFC's June and August meetings, the SPFC reviewed and formally endorsed the budget allocation of \$300,000 required to support the new Division II championship should it be adopted at the January Convention.
- b. High-cost city per diem.** Similar to the bowling championship above, the Management Council and Executive Board also approved the Championships Committee's recommendation to implement a per diem rate of \$205 (up from the regular \$155) for Division II championship competition conducted at championship sites located in the cities that the NCAA travel staff has identified as high-cost cities, effective for 2025-26. Again, due to the timing of the summer meetings, the SPFC reviewed and formally endorsed the budget allocation of \$300,000 required to implement the high-cost city per diem.

5. Division II long-range budget.

- a. Management Council feedback regarding Division II revenue distribution.** Staff summarized the feedback from the Management Council regarding Division II revenue distribution, noting there was no support for changing the current revenue distribution formula.

- b. Allocation of new Division II revenue and reserves.** Staff also summarized feedback from the Management Council and Executive Board regarding the SPFC's recommendation to increase the annual allocation to the division's championships program from 61% to 65%. The Executive Board directed the SPFC to proceed with the 65% allocation as a final recommendation for the board to consider during its October meeting as part of approving a new long-range budget for the division. Accordingly, the SPFC asked staff to include that approval as part of the final long-range budget the committee will review during its September meeting.

- 6. Division II Operating Plan.** The committee continued reviewing a draft of the 2026-32 Division II Operating Plan that includes action steps, timelines and budget allocations to support various initiatives. The Management Council and Executive Board offered feedback on the draft during their summer meetings. The committee asked staff to continue polishing the draft and will consider making a final recommendation on the Operating Plan and the accompanying long-range budget during its September meeting. The new plan will be launched at the 2026 Convention.

- 7. Division II Conference Strategic Priorities Fund.**
 - a. Guidelines and Principles.** The committee reviewed the Conference Strategic Priorities Fund Guidelines and Principles.
 - b. 2024-25 Conference Strategic Priorities Fund reports.** The committee reviewed a summary of the 23 conference reports, noting there were no carryover dollars requested, and approved the reports accordingly.
 - c. Fines for late submissions.** Staff noted that all 23 conferences submitted their reports by the June 30 deadline.
 - d. Recommendations for special recognition for 2024-25.** The committee approved awarding \$2,500 each to the following conferences for conducting exemplary initiatives this past year.

Conference (Strategic Positioning Outcome Area)	Initiative/Program Recognized
Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (Game Day and Championships)	Inaugural CIAA Women's Flag Football Championship.
Great Lakes Valley Conference (Game Day and Championships)	Community engagement conducted during the GLVC Women's Volleyball Championship.

- e. For-cause audits.** Staff noted there are no for-cause audits necessary at this time.

- 8. Affiliate organization reports.** The committee reviewed reports outlining expenditures of the grants for 2024-25 from the affiliate organizations noted below. The committee approved a \$75,000 grant to each of the organizations for 2025-26.
- a. Division II Athletics Directors Association.
 - b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association.
 - c. College Sports Communicators.
 - d. Faculty Athletics Representative Association.
 - e. Minority Opportunities Athletics Association.
 - f. National Association for Athletics Compliance.
 - g. Women Leaders in Sports.
- 9. Strategic Planning and Finance Committee chair election.** The committee elected Curtis Janz to succeed Julie Ruppert as chair when her term as chair expires at the end of August (her term on the committee extends through August 2027). The committee expressed its deepest appreciation to Ms. Ruppert for her leadership as the inaugural chair of the newly reconstituted committee this past year.
- 10. Future meetings and videoconferences.**
- a. Thursday, September 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).
 - b. Friday, December 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern time (videoconference).

Committee Chair: Julie Ruppert, Commissioner, Northeast-10 Conference

Staff Liaisons: Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance

Maritza Jones, Division II Governance

Ryan Jones, Division II Governance

Cara Hubert, Administrative Services

Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee August 19, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Joseph Arnold, Clark Atlanta University.	
Peter Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University.	
Curtis Janz, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College (<i>ex officio</i>).	

Brandi Laurita, University of Findlay.
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (<i>ex officio</i>).
Pennie Parker, Rollins College.
Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference.
Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University.
Sandra Woodley, The University of Texas Permian Basin.
David Wilmes, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.
Absentees:
Frank Wu, Queens College (New York).
Guests in Attendance:
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Terri Steeb Gronau, Cara Hubert, Maritza Jones and Ryan Jones.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Blake Jacklin, Karen Kirsch, Ann Martin, Katie Mucci, Angela Red, Jill Waddell and Courtney Wengryn.