



**REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 25, 2020, IN-PERSON MEETING**

**ACTION ITEM**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **General Discussion.** The meeting, held at Spalding University, convened at 8:14 a.m. The Administrative Committee discussed items of importance to the NCAA and those specific to Division III. Staff informed the committee of its three primary functions: (1) To identify the primary issues of interest to the governance structure during the upcoming year; (2) To act on any emergency issues that arise between Council meetings; and (3) To decide routine issues best acted on between the regular quarterly meetings of the Councils.
2. **Leadership Expectations.** The committee reviewed the leadership expectations, the Policies and Procedures documents for both Management and the Presidents Councils, upcoming meeting schedule for 2020-2021, and committee responsibilities including the Board of Governors and Council meetings. Leadership asked staff to develop a meeting schedule with dates and times pertinent to their committee assignments.
3. **Key Association-wide Issues.**
  - a. Board of Governors (BOG).
    - (1) Name, Image and Likeness (NIL). The committee reviewed the Executive Summary from the NCAA Convention Division III Issues Forum, an excerpt from the Division III SAAC January report and a summary of the Interpretations and Legislative Committee's February meeting.

Issue Forum feedback indicated: (1) Concept A was the closest to the current model and Division III philosophy; (2) Concept B showed that less than half of the tables were concerned about possible negative outcomes with little to no institutional control; and (3) Concept C did not seem feasible for the average Division III staff, as it would increase institutional monitoring of both student-athlete activities and institutional logo usage.

SAAC feedback indicated a desire for more flexibility consistent with the position that the experience of a student-athlete should be similar to that of a general student.

The Interpretations and Legislative Committee (ILC) reviewed this issue through the framework of the three Association-wide guiding principles, while recognizing that Division III is legislatively more permissive in this area than the other divisions. The committee discussed the opportunities to use NIL and the concerns

around those potential opportunities. The three areas discussed were (1) Crowdfunding; (2) Endorsements; and (3) Student-athlete academic and work product.

The committee endorsed sending a membership communication sharing ILC's preliminary recommendations and comments, pending the prior approval of the Association's legal counsel. In addition, the Division III Oversight Group on NIL has a teleconference scheduled for April 9 and will report out to the Management and Presidents Councils at their April meetings.

- (2) Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity. Staff updated the committee on the current status of this committee with the departure of Executive Vice President Katrice Albert. Terri Gronau, vice president for Division II Governance, is serving as the interim department head.
  - (3) Sexual Violence Prevention. The 2019-20 attestation form for the NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence will open March 1. The form will be available until May 15 in the assigned NCAA Learning Portal module for membership and on the policy's website. All NCAA member schools must complete and upload the form into the NCAA Learning Portal module by May 15. Schools who are unable to attest their compliance with the policy will not be eligible to host NCAA championships during the next applicable academic year.
- b. Officiating. The committee noted that Division III began a comprehensive study with The PICTOR Group regarding officiating. Division I and II also voiced related issues and concerns. The PICTOR Group is now leading a comprehensive review of the state of officiating for 15 NCAA sports across all three divisions. The goal is to articulate problems and recommend solutions, as well as to improve the officiating pipeline. The Councils will receive an update during their April meetings.
- c. Sport Science Institute Updates.
- (1) Arrington Settlement. The committee noted that the Arrington settlement was finalized in late November. The settlement agreement provides NCAA member institutions with an opportunity for a release from certain legal claims. To benefit from the release, member institutions must: (1) Certify, one-time, in writing to a court identified representative that they have put in place a concussion management plan; (2) Conduct annual baseline testing of all student-athletes; and (3) Ensure that all return to play is approved by a team physician. An updated FAQ was being sent to the membership at the end of the month. Further, Management Council approved noncontroversial legislation requiring Division III institutions to report the number of total concussions to the Sport Science Institute consistent with actions in Divisions I and II.
  - (2) Athletics Training Care Gap. SSI is writing a white paper that examines athletics trainer coverage (ATC) and liability issues with coverage for visiting teams. The white paper will remind the membership of its obligation regarding the provision

of care to teams visiting without an ATC. Staff anticipates SSI forwarding the white paper to the Councils in April for feedback and then to the broader membership.

- d. NCAA Strategic Plan. The committee reviewed the Strategic Plan timeline noting it anticipates completion and endorsement by the Board of Governors at its April meeting. The plan focuses on the following: (1) Overall student-athlete experience; (2) Branding; (3) Diversity and inclusion; (4) Optimizing effective governance and sustainability; and (5) focusing on the Association's future.

#### **4. Key Division III Initiatives for 2020-21.**

- a. Transfer Portal. The division continues to monitor how many institutions are using the portal on a voluntary basis. Currently approximately 250 student-athletes are in the portal. Staff doesn't anticipate any legislation making use of the portal mandatory. The committee noted that effective January 2020, Division II approved legislation that all student-athletes wishing to transfer must be entered into the transfer portal similar to Division I.
- b. International Ice Hockey Pilot. The committee noted that it is the second year of the ice hockey pilot, with Division III paying half of the cost. A survey will be sent to participating institutions. Management Council will review the feedback during its April meeting.
- c. Health and Safety Survey. Staff informed the committee that 240 institutions completed the health and safety survey. Management Council will review feedback at its April meeting.

#### **5. Working Group Updates.**

- a. Gameday the DIII Way. Staff continues to encourage campuses and conferences to invite a trained facilitator, approximately 150, to provide an in-person training. Staff also is working with championships to incorporate Gameday into the Division III national championships. Action steps include producing a Gameday public service announcement to be read at all championships and requesting Regional Advisory Committee members and sport committee members to watch the on-line training as many serve as on-site game facilitators. In 2020-21, staff anticipates including the Gameday principles in all the championship manuals (e.g., participant, host, operations).
- b. LGBTQ. Staff discussed the inaugural Division III LGBTQ OneTeam Awards. These newly created awards will annually recognize an honoree in three categories: (1) LGBTQ Student-Athlete of the Year; (2) LGBTQ Administrator/Coach/Staff of the Year; and (3) the OneTeam Athletics Department/Conference of the year.

The goal is to recognize, honor and celebrate the service and leadership of LGBTQ individuals; and an athletics department/conference that has demonstrated proactive efforts

to create and sustain an LGBTQ-inclusive culture. The application process for all three awards is available on NCAA Program Hub until June. Award recipients will be recognized at the January 2021 NCAA Convention.

6. **Potential 2021 Division III Legislation.** The Administrative Committee received an update on potential legislation for the 2021 Convention: (1) Giving SAAC one vote per proposal during the Convention Business Session; (2) Donations provided to youth groups; (3) Allow student-athletes to participate when enrolled less than fulltime; (4) NIL; (5) Recruiting legislation specific to official and unofficial visits; and (6) Extending soccer playing and practice seasons. Staff also noted that the baseball and softball committees are looking at the resolution adopted in January. Outcomes may include moving the tournaments back or aligning them. The committees will review and provide feedback to the Championships Committee and ultimately the Councils.
7. **Division III Strategic Planning and Finance.**
  - a. Division III Strategic Plan. The current Division III Strategic Plan details a two-year budget cycle to align with the 2019-2021 budget biennium. The plan outlines year one of the biennium budget cycle.
  - b. Division III Budget.
    - (1) Budget-to-Actual. The committee reviewed the budget-to-actual document noting that as of January 2020, the fall championships and all nonchampionships were currently within budget.

AdCom approved a new format to allow for better conversation that will list the current year first; percentage of budget spent to date; and what was spent to date compared to the prior year.
    - (2) Championships expenses. The committee reviewed the Division III fall championships budget by sport through January 31.
    - (3) Budget projections. The committee reviewed an updated future budget projection through 2023-24 that included all new proposed initiatives. There will be a 11 percent revenue increase in 2024-25. At its March meeting, SPFC will review proposed changes to the mandated reserve policy and the impact on the future forecast.
  - c. Strategic Planning and Finance Committee in-person meeting. The committee reviewed the draft agenda for the March in-person meeting.

**8. Other Communication Initiatives.**

a. Presidents Council Communication Plan.

- (1) President's Advisory Group (PAG). The committee reviewed the rationale for the establishment of PAG.
- (2) Presidential Quarterly update. The committee noted the current quarterly update is informative.

b. Management Council Communication Plan. Each Management Council member is assigned two to three conferences for the year. Staff provides a sample letter to use when contacting assigned conferences, an updated Governance PowerPoint and an introduction regarding the program and guidelines for attending conference meetings. Council members complete an on-line meeting recap summary form following the meeting. These recaps are then discussed at the next scheduled Management Council meeting.

c. Regular Governance Communication. Regular communications include the Monthly Update, a regular email to Division III commissioners, monthly webinars and occasional updates on the NADIII AA listserv. In addition, the governance scorecard is sent each spring to all current committee members to provide feedback on the committee liaison's performance.

**9. Other Business.** Heather Benning, a member of the Division III Championships Committee, was asked to check on how the Women's Ice Hockey Championship is scheduled and the timing between the semi-final games and final game.

**10. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

*Committee Chair: Tori Murden-McClure, Spalding University, St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Dan Dutcher, Division III Governance  
Louise McCleary, Division III Governance  
Ali Spungen, Division III Governance*

NCAA Division III Administrative Committee February 25, 2020, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Heather Benning, Midwest Conference, participated via web conference.	
Gerard Bryant, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.	
Fayneese Miller, Hamline University.	
Tori Murden McClure, Spalding University.	
Dennis Shields, University of Wisconsin, Platteville.	
<b>Absentee:</b>	
Ali Spungen.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Dan Dutcher, Debbie Kresge, Louise McCleary and Jeff Myers.	