

REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
MARCH 3, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative Items.**
 - None.
2. **Nonlegislative items.**
 - None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome.** President Troha welcomed the Administrative Committee. The meeting, held at NCAA national office, convened at 8 a.m. Eastern time. The committee reviewed its primary functions which include: (a) To identify issues of interest to the governance structure during the upcoming year; (b) To act on any emergency issues that arise between council meetings; and (c) To decide 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, the meeting schedule for 2025-26, and committee responsibilities. The committee discussed strategies to identify opportunities for the councils to lean into issues impacting institutions and conference offices. It also recommitted to streamlining council agendas to allow for increased dialogue on strategic topics. During their summer meetings, the councils will select new council leadership effective with the close of the 2026 NCAA Convention. President Troha will continue as the Division III representative on the NCAA Board of Governors through the close of the 2027 NCAA Convention in January.
3. **Key discussion topics.**
 - a. **Institutional support.** The committee noted supporting institutional athletics staff is a priority. The committee highlighted the release of a resource to support the recruitment and retention of athletic trainers; a working group collaborating with College Sports Communicators to update the division's strategic communication best practices; the implementation of a health and safety grant to offset institutional athletic training department expenses; the formation of a mental health partnership; evaluating the benefits of the NCAA transfer portal, and launching the Association's RefQuest partnership to provide officiating support. The committee also noted the value of evaluating artificial intelligence to reduce administrative burdens. An overarching theme was the importance of engaging and communicating with campus leaders to help address evergreen issues.

- b. **Amplifying the Division III brand.** The councils and membership have identified a need to amplify the Division III brand with prospective student-athletes, coaches, and high schools. The committee highlighted the success of this year's championships live streaming initiative and its direct correlation to increasing the division's brand. It also noted the importance of using the division's public service announcements during regular season, conference and NCAA championship live streams to market the division's brand. The committee noted the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and Presidents Council Futures Subcommittee will continue to use last year's Deloitte review to create new initiatives to amplify the brand.
- c. **Graduate eligibility proposal referral.** The Presidents Council did not sponsor a 2025 Convention proposal and instead referred it back to the Management Council. The council referred the proposal to the originating committee to reexamine the proposal and provide recommendations to the councils for their April meetings. During its March meeting, the Membership Committee discussed an individual student-athlete waiver pilot that would apply to student-athletes attending an institution in which the certifying institution has an existing academic relationship. Additional parameters would include (1) the institution is accredited, (2) the student-athlete has insurance, (3) both institutions agree to the student-athlete's participation, and (4) an identified process for violations. The Administrative Committee generally approved of this approach.
- d. **Name, image and likeness.** The past several years, the division has updated its NIL legislation and is in alignment with Divisions I and II, with the exception that the division has not adopted legislation to allow expanded institutional involvement. The division also is highlighting and promoting educational resources (e.g., NIL Assist).
- e. **Championships policy changes.** At the request of the Management Council, the Championships Committee reviewed and provided feedback on an initial draft of a process the committee will use to review the championship date formula and the impact of the current playing and practices seasons. The review will provide the committee with a resource that includes the entirety of each playing season – the traditional segment, the non-traditional segment, and the championships segment. It is anticipated that this resource will help inform decisions regarding future championship date formula change requests, as it will allow the Championships Committee to view the total impact on campus as it relates to concurrent sport seasons. The Championships Committee also continues to collect and analyze feedback on the NPI, the bracketing pilot and officiating fees.
- f. **National collegiate championships.** The committee discussed the recent approval of women's wrestling as a National Collegiate Championship and the anticipated requests for stunt, triathlon, and acrobatics and tumbling in the coming years. It also noted an anticipated recommendation to add women's flag football as an emerging sport.

- [illegible]

- b. **Purchasing cooperative.** Approximately 95% of NCAA institutions have E&I cooperative services. While there are existing athletics benefits, the NCAA is working to expand those benefits. The committee directed staff to send more information to institutions to highlight the cooperative's benefits and how to access the cooperative services.
 - c. **Congressional engagement.** Since there are no protections to classify student-athletes as employees in the House settlement, the Association continues to encourage the membership to engage with their federal legislators.
 - d. **Legal and governmental actions.** The committee discussed recent federal executive orders and legal proceedings and the impact on the division.
 - e. **Sports betting.** The committee noted the Association's efforts to eliminate prop betting. It also discussed the councils and national SAAC's on-going examination of current sports betting legislation and the general agreement to deregulate betting on professional sports.
 - f. **Eligibility reviews.** The Interpretations and Legislation Committee has recommended non-controversial legislation eliminating the legislated eligibility ramifications specific to Major Junior Hockey participation. The committee is recommending such participation should be subject to the same conditions as like participation. Management Council will act on this recommendation during its April meeting.
 - g. **Sport Science Institute strategic initiatives.**
 - Performance and Training Advisory Group. The Sport Science Institute is holding a summit in early May at the national office. It will consist of subject matter experts, divisional governance structure representatives and student-athletes. An identified outcome is to provide the membership with guidance regarding issues concerning wearable training technologies, specifically data privacy and responsible data collection.
7. **Communication and feedback initiatives.**
- a. **Division III Presidents Advisory Group.** The advisory group consists of presidential representatives from conferences not serving on the Presidents Council. These members engage with the council on key priorities and strategies and report out to their conference colleagues. Staff noted it has expanded its engagement to include an orientation and June videoconference in addition to the October and January in-person opportunities.

- b. **Governance scorecard.** The Governance Scorecard is a formal process to allow governance and sport committee members an opportunity to provide feedback on their committee experience and the work of the committee liaisons. Staff will distribute the scorecard to governance committees this spring and the sport committee scorecard will be sent this summer. Feedback will be shared with the councils at their summer and fall meetings.
8. **Additional business.** Per the Deloitte recommendations, the committee supported staff seeking approval for a senior level position within Division III championships.
9. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Jim Troha, Juniata College

*Staff Liaisons: Louise McCleary, Division III Governance
Jeff Myers, Academic and Membership Affairs
Bill Regan, Division III Governance*

NCAA Division III Administrative Committee March 3, 2025, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Marc Camille, Albertus Magnus College.	
Rob Larson, Luther College.	
Melinda Treadwell, Keene State College.	
Jim Troha, Juniata College.	
Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.	
Absentee:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Louise McCleary, Jeff Myers, Bill Regan and Lisa Rogers.	