



DIVISION III
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**NCAA DIVISION III
 PRESIDENTS AND MANAGEMENT COUNCILS
 SUMMARY OF SUMMER 2024
 QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

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<p align="center">Division III Management Council July 22-23, 2024, Meeting</p>	<p align="center">Division III Presidents Council August 5, 2024, Videoconference</p>
<p align="center">ATTENDEES</p>	<p align="center">ATTENDEES</p>
<p>Joe Bednarsh, Yeshiva University Pete Bothner, Nazareth College Jessica Brown, North Central College Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference Crystal Gibson, St. Mary's College of Maryland Julia Hathaway, Virginia Wesleyan University, SAAC representative Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University (MA) Rob Larson, Luther College Angela Marin, University of Texas at Dallas Betsy Mitchell, California Institute of Technology Nicki Piart, Lake Forest College Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University Bill Stiles, Alvernia University Melinda Treadwell, Keene State University Jim Troha, Juniata College <i>[Presidents Council chair]</i> Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire <i>[chair]</i> Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University</p>	<p>Jeff Abernathy, Alma College Allan Belton, Pacific Lutheran University Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Trinity College (Connecticut) <i>[vice chair]</i> Marc Camille, Albertus Magnus College Hiram Chodosh, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges Bryan Coker, Maryville College Suzanne Davis, Greenville University Sue Hasseler, Muskingum University Marisa Kelly, Suffolk University Jack Langan, Cornell College Rob Larson, Luther College <i>[Management Council vice chair]</i> Carolyn Lepre, Salisbury University Steven Mauro, Alfred State University Milton Moreland, Centre College Adaobi Nebuwa, Colby College, SAAC representative Raymond Rice, University of Maine at Presque Isle Jim Troha, Juniata College <i>[chair]</i> Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire <i>[Management Council chair]</i> Renee Wachter, University of Wisconsin-Superior Adam Weinberg, Denison University</p>
<p align="center">ABSENTEES</p>	<p align="center">ABSENTEES</p>
<p>Muthu Meenakshisundaram, University of Minnesota, Morris, SAAC representative Keiko Price, Emory University</p>	<p>Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College Douglas Lee, Waynesburg University</p>

OTHER PARTICIPANTS	OTHER PARTICIPANTS
<p>Charlie Baker, NCAA Corey Berg, NCAA Gary Brown, NCAA Ben Brownlee, NCAA Michael Cioroianu, NCAA Eric Hartung, NCAA Natalia Herrera, NCAA Kevin Lennon, NCAA Louise McCleary, NCAA Gretchen Miron, NCAA Katie Mucci, NCAA Sarah Mullen, Lewis Rice Jeff Myers, NCAA John Parsons, NCAA Stephanie Quigg, NCAA Bill Regan, NCAA Lisa Rogers, NCAA Hunter Rose, NCAA Rachel Seewald, NCAA Ali Spungen, NCAA Tori Sutherland, NCAA Jared Tidemann, NCAA Brad Wachler, Lewis Rice JP Williams, NCAA Amy Wilson, NCAA</p>	<p>Mark Aiken, NCAA Corey Berg, NCAA Gary Brown, NCAA Eric Hartung, NCAA Natalia Herrera, NCAA Kevin Lennon, NCAA Louise McCleary, NCAA Katie Mucci, NCAA Sarah Mullen, Lewis Rice Jeff Myers, NCAA Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA Bill Regan, NCAA Lisa Rogers, NCAA Luke Schultheis, NCAA Ali Spungen, NCAA Lynda Tealer, NCAA Jared Tidemann, NCAA Brad Wachler, Lewis Rice JP Williams, NCAA</p>

1. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

July 22-23 Management Council. The meetings were called to order at 8 a.m., Eastern time, July 22; and 8:40 a.m. Eastern time, July 23. The chair, Jason Verdugo, welcomed the council and reviewed the agenda.

August 5 Presidents Council. The videoconference was called to order at 11:05 a.m., Eastern time, August 5. The chair, Jim Troha, welcomed the council and reviewed the agenda.

2. REVIEW OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

a. Management Council Videoconferences – April 16-17, 2024.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of its April 16-17 videoconferences.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

b. Presidents Council Videoconferences – April 24, 2024, and June 5, 2024 (PAG).

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved summaries of its April 24 videoconference and the June 5 Presidents Advisory Group videoconference.

c. Joint Management Council and Presidents Council Videoconference – May 14, 2024.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved the report from their May 14, 2024, joint videoconference.

d. 2023 Committee/Subcommittee Assignments.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed assignments for the coming year but noted that because of the four new members approved to join the council [see Item 3-b-(8)-(c) on page 13] and the creation of a new subcommittee (see Item 6-f on page 23), the assignments will be updated and revisited during the council's October meeting.

e. Presidents Council Policies and Procedures.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed the changes approved during its April meeting to the policies and procedures document. The primary changes relate to legislation adopted at the 2023 NCAA Convention requiring all multisport conferences to be represented either on the Management Council or the Presidents Council, and for the Division III Nominating Committee to assume responsibility for filling council vacancies. [See Items 3-b-(8)-(b) and 3-b-(8)-(c) on pages 12 and 13.]

f. Governance Update.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council received an update from NCAA Senior Vice President of Policy and Governance Kevin Lennon, who walked the council through the recent settlement and its potential impact on the Association overall and Division III. Other updates included the ongoing threat of student-athletes being considered as institutional employees, sports wagering, pursuit of a collective purchasing agreement of sports equipment, and the development of the NCAA's fan database.

g. Championships.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council heard from new NCAA Senior Vice President for Championships Lynda Tealer, who provided an overview of her vision for the NCAA championships program.

h. Division III Philosophy Statement and Strategic Positioning Platform.

Management Council. The council reviewed the division's current philosophy statement and strategic positioning platform and referred to these resources during its discussions. The council also reviewed the new philosophy statement that becomes effective August 1, 2024. The council asked staff to distribute the new statement to the membership to highlight the key changes.

Presidents Council. The council noted the division's newly adopted philosophy statement is in effect as of August 1, 2024.

i. Administrative Committee Reports.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils ratified the Administrative Committee's action to approve establishing a group to advise the NCAA Division III Membership Committee in its review of Bylaw 20.3.2 (Athletics Consortiums) and related student-athlete enrollment and eligibility issues.

3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING DIVISION III.

a. Division III Joint Presidents Council/Management Council Committees or Subcommittees.

Staff Liaison:
Regan

Council Reps:
Bednarsh, Belton,
Coker, Lee,
Mauro, Stiles,
Verdugo, Wigley

(1) Convention Planning Subcommittee.

Management Council. The council endorsed the proposed topics for the Division III educational sessions for the 2025 Convention in Nashville, Tennessee (Survive and Thrive, and Fan Behavior and Sportsmanship), as well as the topic for the session being sponsored by the National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators (Recruitment and Retention of Athletics Personnel). The council also noted that the subcommittee will determine topics for the Issues Forum at its September meeting. For the 2025 Convention, the schedule will move from Wednesday through Saturday to Tuesday through Friday. (This change is only for the 2025 Convention.)

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Aiken, Hartung,
McCleary, Regan,
Myers

Council Reps:
Abernathy, Berger-
Sweeney, Piart

(2) Strategic Planning and Finance Committee (SPFC).

(a) 2023-24 Budget-to-Actuals Report.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed the most recent budget-to-actuals, noting that not all expenses for winter and spring championships have been recorded. As planned, several championships are over budget, which will help reduce the amount above the mandated reserve. In addition, not all Enrichment Fund expenses have been recorded, as two grants will be distributed in August (the Coaches and Administrators Diversity grants and a grant to Women Leaders in Sports).

(b) 2024-25 Division III Strategic Plan.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee's recommendation to adopt the 2024-25 strategic plan, as amended by the Presidents Council, that positions the division for success during the first year of the 2024-26 budget biennium. The plan builds upon the 2023-24 plan and highlights priorities identified through the governance structure and membership feedback. Key priorities include implementing the recommendations from the two external reviews; supporting officiating initiatives; creating a council subcommittee to oversee diversity, equity, and inclusion; providing mental health resources; increasing branding efforts; supporting athletic trainers

and athletics communication/sports information offices; and supporting Association-wide initiatives.

(c) Division III Budget Items.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved the FY25 and FY26 budget recommendations from the SPFC and reviewed the impact on the division's long-term budget forecast. The proposed budget enhancements will directly benefit the membership and increase the division's branding and exposure.

- **Enrichment Fund.** A total of \$438,500 in new Enrichment Fund initiatives for 2024-25, which include an increase in the conference grant funding for Tier 1 to support conference office professional development and travel; a one-time grant to support officiating; inflationary increases for diversity initiatives and NCAA Convention programming; a one-time allocation to update the OneTeam Program; programming for athletic trainers and athletics communications directors; and live streaming for the Regional Rules Seminar.
- **Championships.** A total of \$2.6 million in 2024-25 and \$941,000 in 2025-26 for enhancements that include expenses related to bracket expansion, increases in per diem and officiating fees, and a joint championship for men's basketball in 2026.
- **Supplemental Budget Enhancements.** A total of \$3.6 million in 2024-25 for enhancements that include providing select team championship hosts with a stipend to offset livestreaming costs; creation of a national platform to house livestreams of preliminary rounds of team championships; a health and safety grant for institutions; funding for an online mental health module for head coaches and athletic trainers; and funds to provide flexibility in establishing brackets to protect highly ranked teams.

(d) Division III Budget Guidelines and Principles.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved a new resource that outlines the division's budget principles and guidelines. These principles/guidelines will be used to facilitate deliberations related to the potential use of funds allocated to Division III. The SPFC reviewed this resource in March and asked for the Championships Committee to provide feedback before finalizing the resource during its June meeting.

Staff Liaisons:
McCleary, Myers,
Regan

Council Reps:
Bednarsh,
Coker, Brown,
Troha, Tread-
well, Verdugo

(3) **Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee.**

- **Review of 2025 NCAA Convention Proposals.**

Management Council. The subcommittee convened July 26, which was after the Management Council meeting concluded.

Presidents Council. The council noted and agreed with the subcommittee's assessment that two membership-sponsored proposals and two governance-sponsored proposals are presidential in nature and require council review. The council agreed to discuss the merits and potential sponsorship of the two governance proposals during its October meeting.

b. **Division III Committees.**

Staff Liaisons:
Peterson-Mlyn-
ski, Williams

Council Reps:
Sheilley, Ver-
dugo

(1) **Championships Committee.**

(a) **NCAA Bylaw 31.3.5.1 (b) – Executive Regulations – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – Selection Decisions of Sport Committees – Pairings and Site Selection – Protecting Top-Seeded Teams.**

Management Council. The council approved a waiver of Bylaw 31.3.5.1 (b) that requires geographic proximity (i.e., the competition site is within 500 miles of the institution) to take precedent over seeding when constructing a championship bracket. The waiver allows flexibility for sport committees to ensure that top-seeded teams do not face each other in the early rounds of championships. The waiver applies for up to two years to allow time for the impact of the change to be implemented and assessed.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) **NCAA Bylaw 31.3.5.1 (b) – Executive Regulations – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – Selection Decisions of Sport Committees – Pairings and Site Selection – Geographic Proximity.**

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, an administrative regulation that amends Bylaw 31.3.5.1 to (a) codify the existing practice that conference opponents will not meet in the first round of championships; and (b) that seeding will be considered but not be determinative when selecting hosts for championships.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(c) **NCAA Bylaw 17.14.2.1 – Playing and Practice Seasons – Ice Hockey – Exception – Off-Ice Training.**

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the off-ice training exception for ice hockey. Eliminating the bylaw creates consistency in training for all ice hockey programs, and the overwhelming support for this change warrants the action being considered noncontroversial and effective for the 2024-25 season.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(d) **Update on the Implementation of the NPI.**

Management Council. The council received an update from the Championships Committee regarding the implementation of the NCAA Power Index (NPI) as a selection criterion for team sports effective this coming academic year. Fall and winter team sport committees have approved the “dials” (specific components of the metric) and communicated those with their respective sport constituents via educational resources that include a comprehensive Q&A regarding how the metric is intended to work. All spring team sports will have the same information available by August 1. Management Council members discussed the educational materials and suggested that talking points be added to further clarify instances in which the dials differ between like sports (e.g., men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer) to mitigate gender equity concerns.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) **Committee on Infractions.**

Staff Liaison:
McVeigh

Council Rep:
DiCamillo

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(3) **Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.**

Staff Liaison:
Hubbard, Perry

Council Rep:
Gibson

Management Council. The council received the committee’s report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung,
Higgins

Council Rep:
TBD

(4) **Financial Aid Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
Smith

Council Reps:
Mitchell

(5) **Infractions Appeals Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Berg, Myers,
Turner

Council Rep:
Gibson

(6) **Interpretations and Legislation Committee.**

(a) **Emergency Legislation – NCAA Bylaws 14.4.5 and 14.5.5.1 – Eligibility – Academic and General Requirements – Transfer Regulations – Allowing Certification After a Term of Enrollment.**

Management Council. The council recommended that the Presidents Council approve emergency legislation, effective immediately, to change the eligibility process for transfer student-athletes who were academically ineligible had they remained at their previous institution as follows: (a) the student-athlete would remain ineligible for competition upon transfer; and (b) the institution could certify that student-athlete as eligible after one regular term of full-time enrollment, based on that institution's academic standards for all student-athletes. This process eliminates the default position that all transfer student-athletes would have to serve an academic year of residence.

Presidents Council. The council approved the emergency legislation as recommended. The council acknowledged the significance of this change and noted that this action would typically be considered by the membership through a vote at the annual NCAA Convention. However, the council ultimately decided that immediate action via emergency legislation is warranted due to the recent and potential future legal challenges faced by the NCAA. The council noted that emergency legislation may be considered when the Presidents Council deems it appropriate to limit or avoid NCAA liability because of litigation, alternate dispute resolution or governmental proceedings. Finally, the council noted that the membership will have an opportunity to discuss the change at the 2025 Convention when it will be asked to ratify the action.

(b) Noncontroversial Legislation – Establish Start/End Dates for Nordic Skiing.

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, noncontroversial legislation establishing for Nordic skiing a playing season start date of October 8 and an end date of March 29 or the end of United States Nordic Super Tour Finals, whichever occurs later.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung, Hig-
gins, Turner

Council Rep:
Stiles

(7) Membership Committee.

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, noncontroversial legislation to create an exception for institutions accepted into the provisional membership process that would require only international student-athletes that are initially enrolling at Division III provisional member institutions to have NCAA Eligibility Center certification accounts. [See Item 4-a-(8) on page 18.]

The council received an update from the committee about its ongoing review of the athletics consortium legislation. The committee continues to believe that the legislation remains necessary. The committee will continue its review noting the need to appropriately define criteria of neighboring considering the evolving nature of relationships between institutions and modalities of curriculum delivery.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(8) Nominating Committee.

(a) Governance Committee Appointments.

Management Council. The council approved the following governance committee appointments, effective as specified:

- NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (one September 2025 vacancy): Jeff Batis, professor of psychology/faculty athletics representative, Southern Virginia University, USA South Athletic Conference. (Note: The CSMAS asked that the start date be delayed until September 1, 2025, because of a change to the composition of the committee that occurred after its May meeting.)

Staff Liaison:
Roe, Mucci

Council Rep:
Bothner

- NCAA Division III Championships Committee (immediate vacancy): Tim Demant, director of athletics, Whitworth University, Northwest Conference.
- NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee (immediate vacancy): Taylor Bischoff, director of financial aid, Eastern Connecticut State University, Little East Conference.
- NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee (August vacancy replacing Kurt Beron): Andrew Green, faculty athletics representative, Central College (Iowa), American Rivers Conference.
- NCAA Division III Committee on Infractions (immediate vacancy replacing Ken Elmore): Matt Tanney, director of athletics and recreation, Wabash College, North Coast Athletic Conference.
- NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (August vacancy replacing Rohan Springer): Grace Moothart, student-athlete, Austin College, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.

(b) Management Council Appointments.

Management Council. The council recommended that the Presidents Council approve the following slate of nominees, to be approved by the membership, to serve on the Division III Management Council, with terms beginning August 1, 2024, and extending through the 2028 NCAA Convention unless otherwise noted. These nominees, if approved by the membership, will allow the Management Council to comply with the composition requirements established in legislation the membership adopted at the 2023 NCAA Convention ensuring that every multisport conference is represented on either the Presidents or Management Councils. That legislation is effective August 1, 2024. The councils approved the initial assignment and rotation of conference representation at its April 2024 meeting.

- Ryan Erwin, vice president for athletics, East Texas Baptist University, American Southwest Conference.
- Heather MacCulloch, director of athletics, Baruch College, City University of New York Athletic Conference.

- Kristie Bowers, associate vice president/director of athletics, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Liberty League.
- Donald Brooks, associate vice president of student affairs/director of athletics, Macalester College, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (three-year term ends January 2027).
- Amanda DeMartino, director of athletics, The College of New Jersey, New Jersey Athletic Conference.
- Myranda Nash, director of athletics, Brevard College, USA South Athletic Conference (three-year term ends January 2027).

Presidents Council. The council approved the nominees as recommended.

(c) Presidents Council Appointments.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council approved the following appointments as recommended by the Nominating Committee:

- One immediate vacancy replacing Laura Trombley – Debbie Cottrel, president, Texas Lutheran University, Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.
- Three August 1 vacancies, to be approved by the membership, with terms extending through the 2028 NCAA Convention. These nominees, if approved by the membership, will allow the Presidents Council to comply with the composition requirements established in legislation the membership adopted at the 2023 NCAA Convention ensuring that every multisport conference is represented on either the Presidents or Management Councils. That legislation is effective August 1, 2024.
 - Dale Caldwell, president, Centenary University (New Jersey), Atlantic East Conference;
 - Julia Jasken, president, McDaniel College, Centennial Conference; and

- John Walz, president, Milwaukee School of Engineering, Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference.

Staff Liaisons:
Mucci, Spungen,
Trovato,
Youngblood

Council Reps:
Hathaway,
Marin, Meenak-
shisundaram,
Wigley

(9) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received a summary of the committee's July meetings. No action was necessary.

c. Association-Wide Committees.

Staff Liaisons:
Hubbard, Parsons,
Rohlman

Council Rep:
Lamb

(1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hubbard, Lid-
dane, Lokhande,
Miron

Council Rep:
Lamb

(2) Committee on Women's Athletics.

Management Council. The council received an update on the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women Program that included status reports on the sports currently in the pipeline. The council also was informed that women's flag football is expected to apply by the August 1 deadline to be accepted as an emerging sport. If the application is received as anticipated, the Committee on Women's Athletics will review it during the committee's September meeting and potentially recommend that all three NCAA divisions sponsor legislation to add women's flag football as an emerging sport.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hubbard, Lid-
dane, Lokhande,
Miron, Blair-
Hackworth, Ken-
nedey, Sleet

Council Reps:
Lamb, Sheilley

(3) Joint Committee on Women's Athletics and Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.

Management Council. The council received the joint report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Blackwell,
Loechel, Register

Council Rep:
Brown

(4) Honors Committee.

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Blair-Hackworth,
Kennedy, Sleet

Council Rep:
Sheilley

Staff Liaison:
Seewald

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(5) **Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(6) **Playing Rules Oversight Panel.**

(a) **Recent Reports.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the panel's recent reports, noting PROP's discussion regarding the use of federated playing rules during cross-divisional contests. PROP agreed that the playing rules of the host institution should be used for cross-divisional contests; however, teams may mutually agree to use the other division's playing rules. PROP further agreed that the rules of the designated home team should be used for neutral-site games.

The council's review of the recent PROP reports also prompted a discussion regarding bat testing. Council members asked staff to provide data regarding how many bats are found to be out of compliance in Division III to inform whether amending the requirement should be considered.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) **Division III Federated Playing Rules Process.**

Management Council. The council received an update of the current review staff is conducting of the Division III playing rules process adopted in July 2023. Additionally, the council was advised that the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee recently approved a federated rule making the use of the visible action clock permissive for Division III institutions. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel will consider the rule at its August meeting for final approval.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(7) **Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Thomas

Council Rep:
TBD

Staff Liaison:
Thomas

Council Rep:
Price

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(8) **Walter Byers Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

4. PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR THE 2025 NCAA CONVENTION.

a. Review of Noncontroversial Legislation to be Ratified at the 2025 NCAA Convention.

(1) NC 2025-3 Name, Image and Likeness Activities – Student-Athlete Protections.

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation establishing student-athlete protections associated with name, image and likeness activities, as specified, effective August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) NC 2025-4 Academic Eligibility – Graduate Student/Postbaccalaureate Participation – Graduates of a Non-Division III Institution.

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation incorporating into the bylaws the existing graduate/postbaccalaureate student participation waiver directive for non-Division III graduates, effective August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(3) NC 2025-5 Eligibility – Seasons of Participation – Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility – Exception to Use of Season During the Temporary Certification Period.

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation establishing an exception that permits international students in the temporary 45-day certification period to practice without using a season of participation, effective immediately.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(4) **NC 2025-6 Committees – Association-Wide Committees – General Committees – Honors Committee.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation specifying that the Honors Committee shall receive nominations and select recipients for the Gerald R. Ford and Pat Summitt Awards, effective immediately.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(5) **NC 2025-7 Division Membership – Change of Division Membership and Provisional Membership – Application Process – Amend the Application Deadline Date.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation amending the application deadline for the exploratory year, provisional membership and reclassification of membership from January 15 to February 1, effective August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(6) **NC 2025-8 Division Membership – Provisional Membership – Application Process – Amend the New Member Application Process.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation amending the new member application process by incorporating the current exploratory year waiver criteria into the legislated standards for the provisional membership application, effective August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(7) **NC 2025-9 Eligibility – Seasons of Competition: 10 Semester/15 Quarter – Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility – Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment – Standardized Dates for End of Grace Period.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation permitting the NCAA Eligibility Center to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the standard end date of the prospective student-athlete's grace period, effective August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (8) **NC 2025-10 Division Membership – Change of Division Membership and Provisional Membership – Compliance with Association Rules – Establish an International Student Exception.**

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, and adopted, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation to create an exception for institutions accepted into the provisional membership process that would require only international student-athletes that are initially enrolling at Division III provisional member institutions to have NCAA Eligibility Center certification accounts, effective August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- b. **Review of Administrative and Executive Regulations to be Ratified at the 2025 NCAA Convention.**

- (1) **ADM 2025-1 Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – The Championships Fields – Principles of Establishing Bracket Size.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, an administrative regulation to establish an access ratio of 1:6.0 in team sports, effective September 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (2) **ADM 2025-2 Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – Selection of Balance of Championship Field (Pools B and C) – Selection Criteria.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, an administrative regulation to adopt the NCAA Power Index (NPI) as the selection metric for selecting non-automatic qualifiers for the championship field for Division III team sports, effective September 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (3) **ADM 2025-3 Executive Regulations – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championship Participation – The Championships Fields – Principles of Established Bracket Sizes – Increase the Football Bracket to 40 Teams.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, an executive regulation to increase the maximum bracket size in football from

32 to 40 teams, effective with the 2024 NCAA Division III Football Championship.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(4) ADM 2025-4 Executive Regulations – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – The Championships Fields – Combine Pools B and C.

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, an executive regulation to combine Pools B and C into one group of teams eligible for at-large selection into team sport championships, effective August 1, 2025.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

c. Review of Membership-Sponsored Legislation.

(1) Division III Committees – Eligibility of Membership – Student-Athlete Advisory Committee – Change in Composition.

Management Council. The council reviewed a membership-sponsored proposal for the 2025 NCAA Convention seeking to allow each multisport conference and the group of independents to have a primary representative on the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The council referred the proposal to the Division III SAAC and the Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee for consideration.

Presidents Council. The Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee identified this proposal as requiring Presidents Council review. The council will formally consider it at its October meeting.

(2) Multisport Conference – Membership Size – Minimum Requirement.

Management Council. The council reviewed a membership-sponsored proposal for the 2025 NCAA Convention seeking to align NCAA Division III legislative requirements for a multisport conference to be consistent with the membership size requirements for a single-sport conference as well as to align legislative requirements for membership size for a multisport conference with the NCAA Division III legislation related to eligibility for automatic qualifiers and access to NCAA Division III championships. The council referred the proposal to the Division III Membership Committee and the Division III Championships Committee for consideration.

Presidents Council. The Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee identified this proposal as requiring Presidents Council review. The council will formally consider it at its October meeting.

(3) Postgraduate Student Academic Eligibility Requirement.

Management Council. The council reviewed a membership-sponsored proposal for the 2025 NCAA Convention seeking to require a postgraduate student to have been academically eligible to compete had the student remained at the institution most recently attended. The council referred the proposal to the Division III Subcommittee for legislative Relief, the Division III Faculty Athletics Representative Advisory Group and the Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee for consideration.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(4) NCAA Bylaw 17.14.2.1 – Playing and Practice Seasons – Ice Hockey – Exception – Off-Ice Training.

Management Council. The council reviewed a membership-sponsored proposal for the 2025 NCAA Convention seeking to eliminate the exception (Bylaw 17.14.2.1) that allows ice hockey teams to have off-ice practice sessions starting the first Monday in October. The council noted that it approved this proposal, in concept, as noncontroversial legislation earlier in the meeting when reviewing the report from the Championships Committee. [See Item 3-b-(1)-(c) on page 9.] Accordingly, the council anticipates that the membership sponsor may withdraw its proposal.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(5) Federated Playing Rules Exemptions.

Management Council. The council reviewed a membership-sponsored proposal for the 2025 NCAA Convention seeking to establish a process by which Division III may consider federating sport-specific common playing rules that have either a financial or philosophical impact for Division III institutions. The council referred the proposal to select playing rules committees, the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel and the Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee for consideration.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

d. Review of Governance-Sponsored Legislation.

(1) National Collegiate Championship – Women’s Wrestling.

Management Council. The council approved, in legislative format, the 2025 NCAA Convention proposal to establish a National Collegiate Championship in women’s wrestling and to create an NCAA Women’s Wrestling Committee.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) Legislative Authority and Process – Amendment Process – Amend the Legislative Process.

Management Council. The council approved moving forward to the 2025 NCAA Convention a proposal to amend the Division III legislative process as follows:

- i. Establish an initial membership proposal submission deadline of July 1 annually by which sponsors must submit the affected bylaws and the intent and rationale statements;
- ii. Establish a comment period for proposals from July 1 to September 1 annually;
- iii. Establish an alternate membership proposal submission deadline of September 15 annually by which sponsors must submit the proposal in final format and meet a sponsorship threshold of four multisport conferences or 20 institutions representing four multisport conferences;
- iv. Establish September 15 as the final sponsorship date for governance proposals;
- v. Produce a publication of proposed legislation on October 1 annually; and
- vi. Permit four multisport conferences, 20 institutions representing four multisport conferences or the Division III Presidents or Management Councils (by a three-quarters vote) to offer amendments that increase the modification of a proposal.

Presidents Council. The Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee identified this proposal as requiring Presidents Council review. The council will formally consider it at its October meeting.

(3) Eligibility – General Eligibility Requirements – Admission and Enrollment – Create an Exception for Graduated Students Enrolled at a Non-Member Institution that has a Formal Institutional Academic Relationship with a Division III Institution.

Management Council. The council approved moving forward to the 2025 NCAA Convention a proposal to create an exception that would allow a student who has graduated from a Division III institution to maintain their athletics eligibility for that Division III institution while enrolled at an accredited non-member institution without a varsity athletics program, provided there is a formal institutional academic relationship between the Division III institution and the accredited non-member institution.

Presidents Council. The Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee identified this proposal as requiring Presidents Council review. The council will formally consider it at its October meeting.

(4) **Division Membership – Change of Division Membership – Three-Year Provision – Establish a Waiver.**

Management Council. The council approved moving forward to the 2025 NCAA Convention a proposal to establish a waiver of the reclassification three-year period to shorten it from three years to two.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

5. ***CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTIONS.***

• **Council Elections for 2024-25.**

Management Council. The council elected Jason Verdugo, director of athletics at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, to serve as chair, and Rob Larson, faculty athletics representative at Luther College, to serve as vice chair, effective immediately through the close of the 2026 NCAA Convention.

Presidents Council. The council re-elected Jim Troha, Juniata College, as chair and elected Marc Camille, Albertus Magnus College, as vice chair effective with the close of the 2025 Convention. Those terms will extend through January 2026. Council members expressed their appreciation to current vice chair Joanne Berger-Sweeney, who is retiring at the end of the 2024-25 academic year and thus is unable to fulfill her term on the council.

6. ***DIVISION III INITIATIVES AND UPDATES.***

a. **Athletic Trainer Working Group.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed recommendations the working group created based on information from the National Athletic Trainers' Association, findings from a survey the working group developed for Division III athletics directors and athletic trainers, and membership feedback collected during the Division III Issues Forum at the 2024 NCAA Convention. The recommendations focus on three primary areas: culture and communication, workload, and work-life balance. The working group's final recommendations are expected to be provided to the membership by September.

b. Diversity and Inclusion and LGBTQIA+ Working Groups.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved a recommendation to establish a diversity, equity and inclusion subcommittee of the Management and Presidents Councils, which combines the two working groups while enhancing their focus and work.

c. Enrichment Fund Review and Deloitte Evaluation Updates.

Management Council. The Lewis Rice consultants updated the council on their completed evaluation of the Division III Enrichment Fund, which concluded that the grants and programs align with the division's strategic priorities and are being managed in a fiscally responsible manner. The update also noted that more consistency is needed with the marketing and branding, selection processes, objectives and measurable outcomes for each program. The consultants provided recommendations to address these identified concerns and enhance the division's grants and programs.

Presidents Council. In addition to hearing the presentation from the Lewis Rice consultants regarding the Enrichment Fund that the Management Council received, the President Council also revisited the executive summary from the Deloitte evaluation of the financial and brand opportunities for Division III. Council members noted that two of the seven opportunities identified (web streaming and the mental health module) have been initially addressed through funding as recommended by the Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and approved by the Presidents Council. [See Item 3-a-(2)-(c) on page 7.] Staff noted efforts already underway to address the remaining opportunities.

d. Faculty Athletics Representative Advisory Group.

Management Council. The council reviewed the advisory group's most recent report, noting the group's support of the transfer year-in-residence recommendation outlined in Item 3-b-(6) on page 10.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

e. Financial and Risk Management Working Group.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved the working group's recommendation to sunset, agreeing with the working group's assessment that with the completion of Deloitte's analysis, and the fact that the governance structure – primarily the Division III Presidents Council – now owns the analysis, the working group is no longer necessary. Accordingly, the Presidents Council will create a subcommittee to assume the work and collaborate with the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and the Management Council. Staff will work with the council leadership to select council members to serve on the subcommittee.

f. Technology Users Group.

Management Council. The group had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

g. Division III Branding and Marketing.

Management Council. The council received an update on initiatives and resources to support the division's 50th anniversary in 2023-24.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

h. Governance Scorecard.

Management and Presidents Councils. Staff provided the results of the 2023-24 governance scorecard, which is a tool that allows Division III committee members to evaluate their experience and the NCAA staff liaisons' support of the Division III governance bodies.

7. ASSOCIATION-WIDE UPDATES AND ISSUES.

a. Board of Governors Updates.

(1) Recent Meetings.

Management and Presidents Councils. Staff summarized action items from the board's most recent meetings.

(2) Review of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committees.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received an update on the review being conducted based on the charge from the Board of Governors for all Association-wide committees to examine their structure and determine whether changes are necessary to better align their work with the requirements outlined in the new NCAA Constitution. The four diversity, equity and inclusion groups impacted are the Committee on Women's Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee (both of which currently are legislated), the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and the Gender Equity Task Force.

Those four groups established the DEI Committees Review Working Group to carry out the board's charge. The working group has recommended establishing one centralized Association-wide committee to focus on issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. The Board of Governors will consider this recommendation during its August meeting. If

the recommendation is approved, each division will be asked to approve it during their October meetings.

(3) Gender Equity Task Force Letter.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council acknowledged the letter from the Gender Equity Task Force expressing concern with the Association and its membership maintaining the focus on gender equity despite external pressures threatening such balance. The council noted the recommendations contained in the letter.

(4) Women's Basketball Performance Fund.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council was informed that steps have been taken to have the Division I membership vote on the creation of a women's basketball performance fund at the 2025 NCAA Convention. If approved, the Board of Governors' Finance and Audit Committee will review how the Division I revenue distribution budget will be increased through Association-wide dollars to fund the initiative.

b. Sport Science Institute (SSI) Updates.

Management Council. The council received the following updates:

- (1) Mental Health Best Practices.** The most recent updates were approved by the Board of Governors in January 2024 and will become effective August 1, 2024. To date, educational efforts have included developing best practices, Q&A documents and sessions at the 2024 Convention. An online learning module to support these current education efforts is being developed as well.
- (2) Cannabis – Drug Testing Referral.** All divisions have acted through legislation to remove cannabis from the list of banned drugs. Educational resources have been developed, including a Q&A document, talking points and foundational statements. Future educational resources include a one-pager that focuses on myths, screening, and harm-reduction strategies.
- (3) Training and Performance Advisory Group.** The advisory group will be focusing on topics that include physical, mental, and cognitive readiness; performance technologies; sleep; nutrition; and overuse/periodization training. During the May meeting, the advisory group discussed performance technologies that include wearable performance monitoring technologies as a priority topic.

(4) **Other items.** The council also received updates on the following:

- Reinstatement of the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program data request process, which will allow the opportunity for researchers to access NCAA data.
- The CSMAS supported promoting harm-reduction strategies when considering issues related with sports wagering on professional sports.
- Potential recommendations to change the composition of the CSMAS to improve the pool and ensure retention of an endocrinology expert.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

c. Sports wagering.

Management Council. The council discussed the current NCAA legislation that prohibits NCAA student-athletes and athletics staff members from wagering on intercollegiate, amateur, and professional athletics, and possible deregulation that would permit wagering on professional athletics. The council received updates from the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement regarding their discussion of potential deregulation. The council considered the value of prohibiting all sports wagering versus permitting wagering on professional athletics to move to a harm-reduction strategy of education over penalties. The council will continue considering this issue at its October meeting.

Presidents Council. The council discussed possible deregulation to permit betting on professional sports and its impact on Division III student-athletes and athletics departments. It will continue to engage the membership and reexamine the issue during its October meeting.

d. Governmental Relations Report.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council received an update from the NCAA governmental relations staff. No action was necessary.

e. Litigation Update.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received a litigation update from staff. No action was necessary.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

Management Council. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Eastern time on July 17 and at 11:26 a.m. Eastern time on July 18.

Presidents Council. After an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m. Eastern time on August 5.