



DIVISION III
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**NCAA DIVISION III
PRESIDENTS AND MANAGEMENT COUNCILS
SUMMARY OF WINTER 2025
QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

KEY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

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<p align="center">Division III Management Council January 14, 2025, Meeting</p>	<p align="center">Division III Presidents Council January 15, 2025, Meeting</p>
<p align="center">ATTENDEES</p>	<p align="center">ATTENDEES</p>
<p>Joe Bednarsh, Yeshiva University Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Trinity College (CT) <i>[Presidents Council vice chair]</i> Pete Bothner, Nazareth College Kristie Bowers, Rochester Polytechnic Institute Donnie Brooks, Macalester College Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference Ryan Erwin, East Texas Baptist University 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 <i>[vice chair]</i> Heather MacCulloch, Baruch College Betsy Mitchell, California Institute of Technology Myranda Nash, Brevard College Nicki Pieart, Lake Forest College Keiko Price, Emory 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>Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Trinity College (CT) <i>[vice chair]</i> Dale Caldwell, Centenary University (New Jersey) Marc Camille, Albertus Magnus College Bryan Coker, Maryville College Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College Debbie Cottrell, Texas Lutheran University Suzanne Davis, Greenville University Sue Hasseler, Muskingum University Julia Jasken, McDaniel College Marisa Kelly, Suffolk University Jack Langan, Cornell College, SAAC representative Douglas Lee, Waynesburg University Carolyn Lepre, Salisbury University Rob Larson, Luther College <i>[Management Council vice chair]</i> 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 John Walz, Milwaukee School of Engineering Adam Weinberg, Denison University</p>
<p align="center">ABSENTEES</p>	<p align="center">ABSENTEES</p>
<p>Muthu Meenakshisundaram, University of Minnesota, Morris, SAAC representative</p>	<p>Allan Belton, Pacific Lutheran University Hiram Chodosh, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges</p>

OTHER PARTICIPANTS	OTHER PARTICIPANTS
Charlie Baker, NCAA Brynna Barnhart, NCAA Corey Berg, NCAA Gary Brown, NCAA (virtual participant) Michael Cioroianu, NCAA Eric Hartung, NCAA Malik Henry, NCAA Kevin Lennon, NCAA Louise McCleary, NCAA Katie Mucci, NCAA Jeff Myers, NCAA Tom Paskus, NCAA Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA Bill Regan, NCAA Lisa Rogers, NCAA Lorraine Schumacher, NCAA Luke Schultheis, NCAA Ali Spungen, NCAA	Charlie Baker, NCAA Corey Berg, NCAA Gary Brown, NCAA (virtual participant) Alberto Cardelle, State University of New York at Oneonta (incoming council member attending as an observer) Michael Cioroianu, NCAA Eric Hartung, NCAA Malik Henry, NCAA Kevin Lennon, NCAA Louise McCleary, NCAA Katie Mucci, NCAA Jeff Myers, NCAA Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA Bill Regan, NCAA Lisa Rogers, NCAA Ali Spungen, NCAA

1. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

January 14 Management Council. The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. Central time, January 14. The chair, Jason Verdugo, welcomed the council and previewed key agenda items. Council members also held a moment of silence to acknowledge the people affected by the wildfires in the Los Angeles area.

January 15 Presidents Council. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Central time, January 15. The chair, Jim Troha, welcomed the council.

2. REVIEW OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

a. Management Council Meeting – October 21-22, 2024.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of its October 21-22 in-person meeting.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

b. Presidents Council Meeting – October 29, 2024.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the summary of its October 29 in-person meeting.

c. 2025 Committee/Subcommittee Assignments.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed their 2025 committee assignments for returning and incoming members.

d. Division III Philosophy Statement and Strategic Positioning Platform.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed the division's philosophy statement and strategic positioning platform and referred to these resources during the discussions throughout the agenda.

e. Administrative Committee Reports.

(1) Funding for the 2025 and 2026 Division III Women's Golf Championships.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils ratified the Administrative Committee's action to approve funding for items that are necessary as a result of the Division III Women's Golf Championships field

size increasing to 34 teams and six individuals. The additional funding will provide the following:

- Equipment for the second course (\$4,000). While the current budget accommodates travel and per diem for the expanded field, additional funding is necessary to purchase the equipment required to outfit the second course. (The NCAA provides the hole sign posts, blue stakes, caps for hole signs, and bracket posters for each championship course.)
- Head Rules Official stipend increase (\$1,250). Adding a second course to accommodate the expanded field size increases the responsibility and oversight for the head rules official. This also ensures that the stipend provided to the head rules official equals that provided to the head rules official for men's golf if the championship formats are similar.

(2) Administrative Committee Composition.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved in concept noncontroversial legislation that codifies the Management Council vice chair as a member of the Administrative Committee and ensures that if the Management Council chair is a president/chancellor, the committee also shall include an athletics director who is a senior member of the Management Council. Specifically, the new legislative requirements of the Administrative Committee are now as follows:

- Maintain five voting members, including: (1) Presidents Council chair; (2) Presidents Council vice chair; (3) Management Council chair; and (4) Management Council vice chair.
 - If the chair or vice chair of the Management Council is a chancellor or president, the committee also shall include an athletics director who is a senior member of the Management Council.
 - If the chair or vice chair of the Management Council is not a chancellor or president, the committee also shall include the most tenured chancellor or president serving on the Management Council.

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, Erwin, Lee,
Mauro, Stiles,
Verdugo, Wigley

(1) Convention Planning Subcommittee.

Management Council. The council reviewed the Convention Planning Subcommittee's reports from November and December. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung, Blair
Hackworth

Council Rep:
Hasseler, TBD

(2) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Joint Subcommittee.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received the report from the subcommittee's December videoconference. No action was necessary.

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

Staff Liaisons:
McCleary, Hubert,
Regan, Myers

Council Reps:
Berger-Sweeney,
Camille, Larson,
Pieart

(a) Funding for the 2028 Division III Women's Basketball Championship.

Management Council. No action was necessary (the council supported this funding during its October meeting).

Presidents Council. The council formally approved funding (\$250,000) for the 2028 NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Championship being conducted at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis as part of the NCAA Divisions I, II and III Women's Basketball Championships.

(b) Mental Health First Aid Proposal.

Management Council. The council recommended that the Presidents Council approve funding for a partnership with Mental Health First Aid to provide mental health training to all Division III head coaches and athletic trainers. The proposal reflects a recommendation from the review Deloitte conducted last year regarding the division's priorities and opportunities. The council supported the partnership based on the following:

- About half of the Division III membership has familiarity with the provider. Mental Health First Aid also is endorsed by the NCAA Sport Science Institute. The Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee also supported this proposal, as this partnership will directly impact student-athlete health and safety by equipping head coaches and athletic trainers with tools and skills to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health challenges.

- There is a pathway for institutions that receive the training to accommodate new coaches or athletic trainers hired after the initial training is completed (e.g., community classes, virtual or on-campus facilitator). These additional trainings or the training of a campus facilitator would be the institution's responsibility but could be offset by the Division III Health and Safety Grant in fiscal year 2026 or conference grant funding.
- The training provides a three-year certification. Recertification is affordable (\$29 per person) and would be the institution's responsibility; however, that also could be offset by the Division III Health and Safety Grant in fiscal year 2026 or conference grant funding.

The council previously supported funding for this type of partnership. However, instead of an annual cost of \$265,000 for two years (\$530,000 total), the cost is \$5,000 per institution (\$2.1 million). The council noted that while the difference is significant, the division has the money in its reserves to cover the cost and that this partnership meets a membership need.

Presidents Council. The council approved the funding as recommended and reiterated that this addresses a top priority for the Division III membership and is an appropriate use of the division's reserves.

(c) Current and Future Budget Review/Projections.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed the budget-to-actuals for 2024-25 through December, which does not include all the expenses from the fall championships. The budget also allocates funds to various championship enhancements (per diem increase, bracket expansion and championship live streaming) and Enrichment Fund initiatives. Additionally, the division was informed this fall that the annual cost to produce the livestreams for ESPN+ (women's volleyball, men's and women's basketball championships) will be about \$300,000 per year instead of the previously approved and budgeted \$500,000 annually.

(4) Presidents Council Futures Subcommittee.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed the newly established subcommittee's initial report. The council formed this subcommittee during its August meeting as a result of the Deloitte financial analysis that advised

steps to ensure a continual review of issues facing the division. During its first meeting, the subcommittee reviewed a draft document that outlines its purpose, mission and responsibilities moving forward. Subcommittee members also discussed the group's relationship with standing committees such as the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and the reporting line to the Presidents Council. That discussion continued with the Presidents Council, particularly considering the previous item above regarding future budget projections and how the division should manage its reserves to best position the Division III membership to provide optimal educational and athletics experiences for student-athletes. While the council ultimately is responsible for the budgetary decisions that drive the division's strategic vision, members agreed that the subcommittee will be a useful tool in advising the council's decisions in this regard.

b. Division III Committees.

(1) Championships Committee.

(a) Committee reports.

Management Council. The council received the committee's October, November and December reports as information, noting the request to allocate additional funding for the 2025 and 2026 Division III Women's Golf Championships was addressed by the Administrative Committee (see Item 2-e on pages 5 and 6). The council also noted that the Championships Committee opted not to support a proposal from the Division III Men's and Women's Soccer Committees to move the championships back one week. The committee noted the increased burden the extended season would place on institutional personnel and facilities during a time when the playing season for fall and winter sports overlaps. The Management Council had discussed this issue during its October meeting and expressed concerns, which the Championships Committee also took into account.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) Coaches Connect Program.

Management Council. The council noted that Division III is considering establishing a Coaches Connect program to enhance the education and engagement of Division III coaches in governance and championships. The program, which is budget neutral, would convene representative groups of coaches in each sport (i.e., a representative from each conference) regularly via videoconference to be apprised of current issues and proposals or policy

Staff Liaisons:
Peterson-Mlynski,
Williams

Council Rep:
Verdugo

recommendations being considered within the Division III governance structure that would affect their sport. The program would enhance coaches' engagement and enhance their role as advocates for the value of Division III athletics.

The Management Council voiced support for the program and asked that the Championships Committee submit a formal proposal this spring. Staff noted that feedback also will be sought from the Division III commissioners and athletics directors associations in the coming weeks. The program would begin with three sports in the 2025-26 academic year and would be evaluated in the summer of 2026. Assuming the program is successful, three more sports would be added for the 2026-27 academic year. Eventually, all Division III sports except men's and women's basketball (which already have established coaches engagement programs available through their coaches associations) would be included in the program.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
Mikrut

Council Rep:
Di Camillo

(2) **Committee on Infractions.**

(a) **Noncontroversial Legislative Proposals.**

Management Council. Per a recommendation from the Division III Committee on Infractions, the council approved in concept the following noncontroversial legislative proposals regarding NCAA Bylaw 19:

- Division III Infractions Program – Application of Violation Structure. Intent: To codify the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals. In all three divisions, the NCAA Constitution and bylaws hold institutions responsible for the conduct of their employees. Additionally, Bylaw 19.01.4 establishes that the infractions program shall hold institutional staff members individually accountable for violations of NCAA legislation. The current Bylaw 19 structure does not, however, contemplate assigning different classifications to parties based on the same conduct. Rather, violation classification is based on the nature and severity of the conduct, which either meets the definition of a major or secondary violation, and not the identity of the actor. Therefore, the same underlying conduct cannot be major for one party and secondary for another. Consistent with this structure, the Committee on Infractions holds the institution and institutional staff member responsible for the violation at the same classification and differentiates culpability through the application of

penalties. The noncontroversial changes to Bylaw 19.02.2 regarding the application of the violation structure are merely a codification of the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals.

- Division III Infractions Program – Application Exception for Limited Sports Betting Violations. Intent: To amend Bylaw 19 processing requirements to separate the individual culpability of an involved individual from that of an institution in select cases involving sports wagering (Bylaw 10.3). This change does not impact or supersede the ongoing membership review of the scope of NCAA sports betting legislation and would apply to the current rules or any amended framework that is ultimately adopted. The processing changes do, however, immediately benefit institutions currently involved in select sports betting infractions cases by allowing an institution to process its portion of a case at a lower level than an individual, provided certain factors are met.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) Incorporate Policy Changes into Internal Operating Procedures.

Management Council. The council, based on approving the two noncontroversial legislative changes in items (a) and (b) above, approved changes to the Committee on Infractions' Internal Operating Procedures.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(3) Financial Aid Committee.

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(4) Infractions Appeals Committee.

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung,
Higgins

Council Rep:
TBD

Staff Liaison:
Smith

Council Reps:
Camille,
Mitchell

Staff Liaisons:
Berg, Myers,
Turner

Council Rep:
Gibson

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

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung,
Higgins,
Turner

Council Rep:
Stiles

(6) **Membership Committee.**

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
Roe, Mucci

Council Rep:
Bothner

(7) **Nominating Committee.**

(a) **Governance Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The council approved the following governance committee appointments:

- NCAA Division III Management Council.
 - Anthony Scola, (replacing Jessica Brown) vice president for enrollment management and marketing, North Park University, College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin.
 - Anthony Berich, (replacing Amanda DeMartino) executive director of athletics, Stockton University, New Jersey Athletic Conference.
- NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee. Danielle Lynch, director of athletics, Haverford College, Centennial Conference.
- NCAA Division III Nominating Committee. Robert Passage, director of intercollegiate athletics, Willamette University, Northwest Conference.
- NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Edward Zazzali, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference; and Imani Gonzalez, Baruch College, City University of New York Athletic Conference.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(c) SAAC Appointment Process.

Management Council. The council noted the Nominating Committee's review of its process for selecting student-athletes for the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, in light of the legislative proposal being considered by the membership at the 2025 convention. It supported allowing Division III SAAC members to review the nomination slates and send their feedback to the Nominating Committee for its consideration when reviewing the SAAC nominees. The SAAC supported this change but did not believe that it should be the body to select the nominees for the Management Council to consider.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(8) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Management Council. The council received a summary of the committee's recent meetings from the SAAC representative that included a summary of the SAAC's Mental and Physical Health Subcommittee hosting a virtual town hall for student-athletes, coaches and administrators in November that featured Dr. Deena Casiero, the NCAA chief medical officer, and Kaya Mahy, a softball student-athlete at Muhlenberg College who shared her research on identity and life after sport. The subcommittee members also shared information and tips on topics including motivation, nutrition, and healthy relationships, among others.

Presidents Council. In addition to the town hall summary, the council also debriefed a roundtable discussion held earlier with the SAAC and Management Council to further deliberate whether the NCAA's sports betting policies should be deregulated to allow betting on professional sports. The council also approved the SAAC's recommendation to appoint Lillian Case, Juniata College, Landmark Conference; and Sebastian Knowles, Hartwick College, Empire 8, as SAAC representatives to the council for the coming year. Council members noted that current legislation prohibits two members from the same institution serving on the council (President Troha also represents Juniata), but staff noted that the legislation traditionally has not applied – nor was it necessarily intended to apply – to SAAC appointments. Accordingly, the council was satisfied that the new appointments are appropriate.

(9) Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Mucci, Spungen,
Trovato,
Youngblood

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

Staff Liaison:
Bullock,
Hubbard, Perry

Council Rep:
Gibson

Staff Liaisons:
Trovato, Zike

Council Reps:
Bowers, Di Camillo, Larson, MacCulloch, Peart, Price, Stiles,

(10) Subcommittee for Legislative Relief.

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

c.

Association-Wide Committees.

Staff Liaisons:
Durden, Rohlman

Council Rep:
Lamb

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

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Lokhande, Miron

Council Rep:
TBD

(2) Committee on Women's Athletics.

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Blair Hackworth, Kennedy, Miron, Slate

Council Rep:
Lamb

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

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Lawrence, Loechel, Register

Council Rep:
TBD

(4) Honors Committee.

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Blair Hackworth, Kennedy

Council Rep:
TBD

(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.

Staff Liaisons:
Thomas

Council Rep:
Brooks

(6) **Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.**

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Thomas

Council Rep:
Price

(7) **Walter Byers Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.**

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

4. **2025 NCAA CONVENTION LEGISLATION.**

a. **Review of Convention Logistics.**

Management and Presidents Councils. Staff reviewed the delegates' schedule, the joint Management Council/Presidents Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee meeting, the Issues Forum, the Presidents and Chancellors Forum, and the Division III Business Session. No action was necessary.

b. **Review of Convention Official Notice.**

Management Council. Staff reviewed the Official Notice with the council, noting that the eligibility proposal initially sponsored by the council (to create an exception for graduated students enrolled at a non-member institution that has a formal academic relationship with a Division III institution) is not part of the Official Notice. Rather, the Presidents Council during its review of the proposal in October sent it back to the Management Council for additional review. While the presidents supported the concept in general, since it intends to expand participation opportunities and provide flexibility for institutions that do not offer the specific graduate program, they felt the proposal needed further vetting and clarification to ensure there were no unintended or undesired outcomes/scenarios that would run counter to the Division III philosophy. Because the proposal originated with the Division III Membership Committee, the Management Council referred it to the committee to review and provide a recommendation to be considered during the spring council meetings. The council also acknowledged that the Membership Committee should collaborate with other governance committees as needed to inform a recommendation.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary

c. Review of Legislative Proposal Question and Answer Guide.

Management and Presidents Councils. Staff reviewed the Q&A with the councils. No action was necessary.

d. Review of Speaker Assignments.

Management and Presidents Councils. Staff reviewed and confirmed the council speaker assignments for designated proposals.

e. Review of Parliamentary and Voting Procedures.

Management Council. The council reviewed the 2025 NCAA Convention Mootnicity and Related Parliamentary Issues document and recommended that the Presidents Council formally adopt it, noting that there are no mootnicity issues for any of the proposals.

Presidents Council. The council voted to adopt the 2025 NCAA Convention Mootnicity and Related Parliamentary Issues document.

5. NONCONTROVERSIAL LEGISLATION FOR THE 2026 NCAA CONVENTION.

Management Council. The council formally adopted in final legislative format the following noncontroversial legislative proposals:

- a.** NC 2026-1 Committees – Association-Wide Committees – General Committees – Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging. Effective date: September 1, 2025. Intent: To transition the Committee on Women’s Athletics and Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee into one comprehensive committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.
- b.** NC 2026-2 Amateurism – Tryout with Professional Team – Eliminate 48-Hour Limit for Student-Athletes to Receive Expenses while Trying Out with a Professional Team. Effective date: Immediate. Intent: To permit a student-athlete to accept actual and necessary expenses from a professional athletics team to participate in a tryout with that team beyond the current 48-hour limit.
- c.** NC 2026-3 Eligibility and Playing and Practice Seasons – Definitions and Applications – Redefining Intercollegiate Competition. Effective date: Immediate. Intent: To clarify the definition and application of intercollegiate competition in Bylaw 14 and Bylaw 17.
- d.** NC 2026-4 Committees – Division III Committees – Term of Office – Amend the Length of Presidential Terms on Division III Committees from Two Years to Four Years. Effective date: Immediate. Intent: To amend the existing legislation to

require that all terms on Division III committees will be four-year terms, including presidents and chancellors.

- e. NC 2026-5 Committees – Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports – Composition – Physician with Endocrinology Expertise. Effective date: Immediate. Intent: To specify that the CSMAS position designated for a physician with expertise in endocrinology may be filled by an individual who is either “on the staff” at a member institution or a member of the “general public.”

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

6. *DIVISION III INITIATIVES AND UPDATES.*

a. **Division III Graduation Rates.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received an update on the 2024 NCAA Division III Graduation and Academic Success Rates. The councils noted that the overall Division III Federal Graduation Rate and the Academic Success Rate remained steady at 70% and 88%, respectively. The councils noted that even when using the federal rate for comparative purposes (which is the only rate by which student-athletes can be compared with the student body), student-athletes have consistently maintained higher rates than their student-body counterparts. The Division III DEI Subcommittee will continue to evaluate the graduation rates and report recommendations to the councils.

b. **Federated Playing Rules.**

Management Council. The council received an update on the implementation of the amendments the council made to the federated playing rules process at its October meeting. The council approved two amendments to the process, the first of which was to establish a standard orientation for the committee members involved in the process and develop a policies and procedures resource. Staff is scheduling those orientations. The second amendment was to create a subcommittee of the Management Council that will provide additional oversight and guidance of playing rules that have a budgetary impact and/or impacts a fundamental Division III principle. That subcommittee has been established, and policies and procedures are being created accordingly.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

c. **Live Streaming Division III Championships.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received an update on live streaming for championships this past fall, noting that the analytics for the Division III Football and Women’s Volleyball Championships broadcast on ESPN will be available in the coming weeks. This fall was the first time Division III required hosts

to live stream every round of team championships and made those streams available on NCAA.com. In total, 210 competitions streamed through the NCAA.com/Hudl partnership – all available for free. Viewers watched a combined 11.5 million minutes of live content this fall compared to 2.3 million last year. The field hockey championship also was promoted via the NCAA fan database and had a 158% increase in viewership.

d. Division III Strategic Priorities.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. Staff updated the council regarding the priorities and emphasis areas for 2024-25 and reviewed progress for specific objectives. No action was necessary.

e. Division III Branding, Promotions and Social Media.

Management Council. The council reviewed key efforts conducted this past fall via social media as well as a quarterly report from the College Sports Communicators. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

f. Athletics Communications Working Group.

Management Council. The council received an update from the working group revising the Division III Guide to Athletics Communication on Campus. That guide was developed to give Division III institutions a resource that provides guidance how to best support their athletics communications personnel. The working group is collaborating with the College Sports Communicators on creating a membership survey to help inform the project. The working group is reviewing the current guide to determine necessary revisions or additions.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

g. Division III Health and Safety Grant.

Management and Presidents Councils. Staff noted that every institution is eligible to be reimbursed up to \$2,000 to offset athletic training department expenses this year. As of December, more than 40 institutions applied for a reimbursement. Institutions have until August 15 to receive the \$2,000 grant. The same grant will be provided again next year.

6. ASSOCIATION-WIDE UPDATES AND ISSUES.

a. Update from NCAA President Charlie Baker.

Management and Presidents Councils. President Baker joined the meetings to update the councils on a number of initiatives, including the NCAA fan database, which continues to grow as a resource for identifying fans' interests and notifying them of events accordingly. The database already has had a positive impact on championship ticket sales, and President Baker emphasized the incredible upside going forward. President Baker also noted the positive impact the Division III membership has had on influencing congressional members to oppose the idea of student-athletes as employees. Other topics addressed included the negative impact of sports betting on student-athletes, and an update on the settlement and its effect on Division III. President Baker also applauded both councils for supporting the mental health training initiative noted in Item 3-(3)-(b) on pages 6 and 7.

b. Board of Governors Updates.

Management Council. The council reviewed the reports from the board's October meeting, noting the following key items:

- The board formally restructured and enhanced how it will receive feedback from student-athletes across the NCAA. It sunset the board's Student-Athlete Engagement Committee and directed the divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees to identify and implement opportunities to meet more frequently to discuss Association-wide issues and report back to the board.
- The Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee determined that during the 10-year period of the proposed settlement for student-athlete compensation cases, institutions that depart Division I will retain their NCAA-calculated institutional liability whether the institution reclassifies to Divisions II or III or departs the NCAA.
- NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Deena Casiero further highlighted upcoming education efforts being developed on mental health and the cannabinoid harm prevention approach, plans to build consensus around responsible use of performance technology, and efforts to engage the membership around issues impacting the athletic trainer workforce.

Presidents Council. In addition to this update, the council as part of the consultative process received an overview of key agenda items for the board's January meeting that occurred the day after the council meeting, including the anticipated action to maintain the current NCAA membership dues for next year (i.e., \$900 for institutions and \$450 for conference offices in Division III). The moratorium on the separate Division III assessment will remain in place for 2025-26.

c. Legal update.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received updates from the NCAA's office of legal affairs on litigation affecting the Association overall and Division III if applicable.

d. Sport Science Institute (SSI) updates.

Management Council. No update was provided.

Presidents Council. NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Deena Casiero updated the council on key topics, including the vision and goals for the Sport Science Institute and the ongoing discussions regarding sports betting during the Presidents and Chancellors Forum held after the council's meeting.

e. Sports Betting Discussion.

Management Council. The council received an update from the NCAA research staff regarding a recent survey of trends in NCAA Student-Athlete Gambling and Sports Betting Behaviors. The council then continued its discussion of possible deregulation to permit betting on professional sports. The council continued to stress the need to provide the membership with educational resources that will help support institutional harm-reduction efforts and student-athlete health and wellness.

Presidents Council. The council engaged in this discussion during the joint breakfast with the SAAC and during the Presidents and Chancellors Forum that occurred directly after the council meeting.

f. Management Council Open Forum.

Management Council. The council discussed topics it will consider at a future meeting when it develops its priorities for 2025. These topics included a review of the division's eligibility rules, efforts to address institutional athletics department staffing, branding of Division III and leveraging the data available via the NCAA fan database, and enrollment challenges.

g. Recognition of Outgoing Members.

Management Council. The council formally recognized and appreciated the outstanding contributions from the following members whose terms on the council expire at the end of the NCAA Convention:

- Tom Di Camillo, commissioner of the State University of New York Athletic Conference.
- Betsy Mitchell, director of athletics at the California Institute of Technology.

- Bill Stiles, associate vice president for athletics at Alvernia College.

Presidents Council. The council formally recognized and appreciated the outstanding contributions from the following members whose terms on the council expire at the end of the NCAA Convention:

- Joanne Berger-Sweeney, president at Trinity College (Connecticut).
- Mary-Beth Cooper, president at Springfield College.
- Sue Hasseler, president at Muskingum University.
- Jack Langan, student-athlete at Cornell College (SAAC representative).
- Adaobi Nebuwa, student-athlete at Colby College (SAAC representative).

7. ***EXECUTIVE SESSION.***

Presidents Council. The council convened an executive session from 12:18 to 12:30 p.m. Central time January 15.

8. ***ADJOURNMENT.***

Management Council. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m. Central time January 14.

Presidents Council. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. Central time January 15.