



**DIVISION III**  
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

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

**KEY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Division III Representative on the NCAA Board of Governors..... Page 5

Management and Presidents Council Appointments..... Pages 11-12

Discussion of Playing Rules Concerns ..... Page 14

Review of 2025 Convention Legislation and Groupings..... Pages 14-17

Federated Rules Process Discussion ..... Page 18

Live Streaming at Division III Championships ..... Pages 18-19

Sports Betting Discussion..... Page 21

| <p align="center"><b>Division III Management Council<br/>October 21-22, 2024, Meeting</b></p>  | <p align="center"><b>Division III Presidents Council<br/>October 29, 2024, Meeting</b></p>   |
|--|--|
| <p align="center"><b>ATTENDEES</b></p> <p>Joe Bednarsh, Yeshiva University<br/>                     Pete Bothner, Nazareth College<br/>                     Kristi Bowers, Rochester Polytechnic Institute<br/>                     Donnie Brooks, Macalester College<br/>                     Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference<br/>                     Ryan Erwin, East Texas Baptist University<br/>                     Crystal Gibson, St. Mary’s College of Maryland<br/>                     Julia Hathaway, Virginia Wesleyan University, SAAC representative<br/>                     Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University (MA)<br/>                     Rob Larson, Luther College [<i>vice chair</i>]<br/>                     Heather MacCulloch, Baruch College<br/>                     Betsy Mitchell, California Institute of Technology<br/>                     Muthu Meenakshisundaram, University of Minnesota, Morris, SAAC representative<br/>                     Myranda Nash, Brevard College<br/>                     Nicki Pieart, Lake Forest College<br/>                     Keiko Price, Emory University<br/>                     Bill Stiles, Alvernia University<br/>                     Melinda Treadwell, Keene State University<br/>                     Jim Troha, Juniata College [<i>Presidents Council chair, virtual participant</i>]<br/>                     Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire [<i>chair</i>]<br/>                     Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University</p> | <p align="center"><b>ATTENDEES</b></p> <p>Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Trinity College (CT) [<i>vice chair</i>]<br/>                     Dale Caldwell, Centenary University (New Jersey)<br/>                     Marc Camille, Albertus Magnus College<br/>                     Bryan Coker, Maryville College<br/>                     Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College<br/>                     Debbie Cottrell, Texas Lutheran University<br/>                     Suzanne Davis, Greenville University<br/>                     Sue Hasseler, Muskingum University<br/>                     Julia Jasken, McDaniel College<br/>                     Marisa Kelly, Suffolk University<br/>                     Jack Langan, Cornell College, SAAC representative<br/>                     Douglas Lee, Waynesburg University<br/>                     Carolyn Lepre, Salisbury University<br/>                     Rob Larson, Luther College [<i>Management Council vice chair</i>]<br/>                     Steven Mauro, Alfred State University<br/>                     Milton Moreland, Centre College<br/>                     Adaobi Nebuwa, Colby College, SAAC representative<br/>                     Raymond Rice, University of Maine at Presque Isle<br/>                     Jim Troha, Juniata College [<i>chair</i>]<br/>                     Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire [<i>Management Council chair</i>]<br/>                     John Walz, Milwaukee School of Engineering</p> |
| <p align="center"><b>ABSENTEES</b></p> <p>Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Trinity College (CT) [<i>Presidents Council vice chair</i>]<br/>                     Jessica Brown, North Central College</p>   | <p align="center"><b>ABSENTEES</b></p> <p>Allan Belton, Pacific Lutheran University<br/>                     Hiram Chodosh, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges<br/>                     Renee Wachter, University of Wisconsin-Superior<br/>                     Adam Weinberg, Denison University</p>   |

| OTHER PARTICIPANTS   | OTHER PARTICIPANTS   |
|--|--|
| <p>Mark Aiken, NCAA<br/>                     Charlie Baker, NCAA<br/>                     Corey Berg, NCAA<br/>                     Gary Brown, NCAA<br/>                     Dawn Buth, NCAA<br/>                     Deena Casiero, NCAA<br/>                     Haydyn Gibson, NCAA<br/>                     Clint Hangebrauck, NCAA<br/>                     Eric Hartung, NCAA<br/>                     Natalia Herrea, NCAA<br/>                     Chassidy Holloway, Midwest Conference<br/>                     (NCAA Pathway Program participant)<br/>                     Anthony Holman, NCAA<br/>                     Cara Hubert, NCAA<br/>                     Kevin Lennon, NCAA<br/>                     Matthew McMaster, Tufts University (NCAA<br/>                     Pathway Program participant)<br/>                     Louise McCleary, NCAA<br/>                     Leilyn Miles, NCAA<br/>                     Katie Mucci, NCAA<br/>                     Jeff Myers, NCAA<br/>                     Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA<br/>                     Stephanie Quigg, NCAA<br/>                     Bill Regan, NCAA<br/>                     Lisa Rogers, NCAA<br/>                     Casie Runksmeier, Colby College (NCAA<br/>                     Pathway Program participant)<br/>                     Luke Schultheis, NCAA<br/>                     Rachel Seewald, NCAA<br/>                     Ali Spungen, NCAA<br/>                     Ryan Wildeman, Marymount University (MD)<br/>                     (NCAA Pathway Program participant)<br/>                     JP Williams, NCAA<br/>                     Joceyln Yang, NCAA</p> | <p>Mark Aiken, NCAA<br/>                     Charlie Baker, NCAA<br/>                     Corey Berg, NCAA<br/>                     Gary Brown, NCAA<br/>                     Deena Casiero, NCAA<br/>                     Michael Gioroianu, NCAA<br/>                     Eric Hartung, NCAA<br/>                     Natalia Herrea, NCAA<br/>                     Cara Hubert, NCAA<br/>                     Kevin Lennon, NCAA<br/>                     Louise McCleary, NCAA<br/>                     Katie Mucci, NCAA<br/>                     Jeff Myers, NCAA<br/>                     Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA<br/>                     Greg Pottorff, NCAA<br/>                     Bill Regan, NCAA<br/>                     Lisa Rogers, NCAA<br/>                     Ali Spungen, NCAA</p> |

**1. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

October 21-22 Management Council. The meetings were called to order at 8 a.m. Eastern time, October 21; and 8 a.m. Eastern time, October 22. The chair, Jason Verdugo, welcomed the council and asked the following new members attending their first council meeting to introduce themselves: Kristie Bowers, director of athletics at Rochester Polytechnic Institute; Donnie Brooks, associate vice president of student affairs and director of athletics at Macalester College; Ryan Erwin, vice president for athletics at East Texas Baptist University; Heather MacCulloch, director of athletics at Baruch College; and Myranda Nash, director of athletics at Brevard College. Mr. Verdugo also asked individuals observing the meeting as participants of the NCAA Pathway Program to introduce themselves.

October 29 Presidents Council. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time, October 29. The chair, Jim Troha, welcomed the council and asked the following new members attending their first council meeting to introduce themselves: Dale Caldwell of Centenary University (New Jersey); Debbie Cottrell of Texas Lutheran University; Julia Jasken of McDaniel College; and John Walz of Milwaukee School of Engineering.

**2. REVIEW OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.**

**a. Management Council Meeting – July 22-23, 2024.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of its July 22-23 in-person meeting.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**b. Presidents Council Videoconference – August 2, 2024.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the summary of its August 2 videoconference.

**c. 2024 Committee/Subcommittee Assignments.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed its 2024 assignments.

**d. Presidents Council Policies and Procedures.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. As it does annually in October, the council reviewed and approved its policies and procedures, noting the revision to accommodate the 2023 NCAA Convention proposal adopted by the membership that mandates half of the division's multisport conferences be represented on the council effective Aug. 1, 2024.

**e. Division III Representative on the NCAA Board of Governors.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council elected President Troha as the Division III representative on the NCAA Board of Governors effective at the conclusion of the 2025 NCAA Convention in January (two-year term through the 2027 Convention). (President Troha recused himself from the meeting during this action.) President Troha will succeed Mary-Beth Cooper of Springfield College, who has served on the board the past two years as the Division III representative.

**f. 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.

**g. Administrative Committee Reports.**

**(1) Committee Appointments.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils ratified the following actions taken by the committee:

- Appointment of Merlin Joseph, assistant director of athletics at State University of New York at Oswego; and Charles Foster, director of athletics at Mississippi University for Women, to the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.
- Review of the three 2025 Convention proposals sponsored by the Division III Management Council.

**(2) Noncontroversial Legislation**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils ratified the Administrative Committee's action to approve, in final format, the following noncontroversial proposals that were approved, in concept, during the Management Council's summer meeting. The committee's action allowed the proposals that impact the 2024-25 competition seasons for ice hockey

and skiing to be effective immediately versus waiting until after the October Management Council meeting.

(a) **NC-2025-11 Playing and Practice Seasons – Ice Hockey – Preseason Practice – Elimination of Exception – Off-Ice Training.** The legislation eliminates the exception (Bylaw 17.14.2.1) that allows ice hockey teams to have off-ice practice sessions starting the first Monday in October.

(b) **NC 2025-12 Playing and Practice Seasons – Skiing – Establish Start/End Dates for Nordic Skiing.** The legislation establishes a playing season start date of October 8 and an end date of March 29 or the end of the United States Nordic Super Tour Finals, whichever occurs later.

**h. Division III Presidents Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting Debrief.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council debriefed the meeting held the previous evening with the Presidents Advisory Group (PAG), including a review of feedback received during the roundtable discussion on sports betting, specifically whether the NCAA's current rules should no longer prohibit betting on professional sports. The PAG also conducted a roundtable discussion regarding the governance-sponsored proposal to provide a graduate eligibility exception. (See the Presidents Council action related to that proposal on page 16.)

The meeting with the PAG also included updates from the Sport Science Institute; the NCAA office of legal affairs; and Kevin Lennon, senior vice president of policy and governance. The presidents also heard from NCAA President Charlie Baker on the NCAA State of Business Review, congressional engagement, and efforts underway to educate and protect student-athletes in the sports betting space.

**3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING DIVISION III.**

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

**(1) Convention Planning Subcommittee.**

Management Council. The Convention Planning Subcommittee reported the following programming:

Staff Liaison:  
Regan

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

**(a) Educational Session Topics and Timing.**

- Survive and Thrive – Fundraising and Cost-Savings Measures; Wednesday, Jan. 15, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m.
- Fan Behavior and Sportsmanship; Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.
- Recruitment and Retention of Athletics Personnel (NADIII AA-sponsored session); Wednesday, Jan. 15, 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.

**(b) Issues Forum Topics.** The council endorsed the following topics the Convention Planning Subcommittee recommended for the membership to discuss during the Issues Forum:

- Status of name, image and likeness at Division III institutions.
- Current legal challenges facing the NCAA.
- Challenges facing Division III and the nonfinancial changes the NCAA can make to address them.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

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

Management Council. The council received the report from the subcommittee’s inaugural meeting. The councils created the subcommittee in July to replace the Diversity and Inclusion and LGBTQIA+ Working Groups. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

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

**(a) Current and Future Budget Review/Projections.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the final budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 as well as budget-to-actuals for 2024-25 through September. The council noted the new FY25 budget is \$6 million more than FY24 due to a scheduled increase this year with the NCAA’s broadcast agreement with Warner Brothers/Discovery, and the impact of the newly signed agreement with ESPN. The budget also allocates funds to various championship enhancements (per diem increase, bracket expansion, and championship live streaming) and to the Enrichment Fund (the \$2,000 health and

Staff Liaisons:  
Hartung, Blair  
Hackworth

Council Reps:  
Brown, Hasseler

Staff Liaisons:  
Aiken, McCleary,  
Regan, Myers

Council Reps:  
Berger-Sweeney,  
Pieart

safety grant for each institution and a partnership with a third party to provide mental health training to all head coaches and athletic trainers.) In FY25, the division will intentionally overspend its budget by about \$4 million to bring its reserves to the agreed-upon amount going forward.

Presidents Council. The council received this update during its meeting with the Presidents Advisory Group.

**(b) Strategic Priorities.**

Management Councils. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed a document staff prepared and uses internally to track and advance the division's priorities.

Staff Liaisons:  
McCleary, Myers,  
Regan

Council Reps:  
Bednarsh, Coker,  
Cottrell, Brown,  
Troha, Treadwell,  
Verdugo

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

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

Management Council. The council received an update of the steering subcommittee's review of Convention proposals.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:  
Trovato, Zike

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

**(5) Subcommittee for Legislative Relief.**

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**b. Division III Committees.**

Staff Liaisons:  
Peterson-Mlynski,  
Williams

Council Rep:  
Verdugo

**(1) Championships Committee.**

Management Council. The council took the following action and received the following updates:

- (a) 2028 Joint Women's Basketball Championship.** The council approved the Championships Committee's recommendation that the 2028 Division III Women's Basketball Championship take place at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis as part of the Women's Final Four. The anticipated cost is \$250,000 (similar to the cost for past joint championships). The council noted that participation in past joint basketball championships has provided an outstanding



experience for the participating teams as well as greater exposure for the division. The recommendation will be considered by the Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and, if approved, by the Presidents Council.

- (b) **Soccer Date Formula Feedback.** The council provided feedback on a recommendation to the Championships Committee to change the men's and women's soccer date formula (move the championship one week later). The Championships Committee will consider the council's feedback and the recommendation at a future meeting.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) **Committee on Infractions.**

Staff Liaison:  
Mikrut

Council Rep:  
Di Camillo

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:  
Bullock,  
Hubbard, Perry

Council Rep:  
Gibson

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(4) **Financial Aid Committee.**

Staff Liaisons:  
Hartung,  
Higgins

Council Rep:  
TBD

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(5) **Infractions Appeals Committee.**

Staff Liaison:  
Walters

Council Reps:  
Camille,  
Mitchell

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

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

Staff Liaisons:  
Berg, Myers,  
Turner

Council Rep:  
Gibson

Management Council. The council received an update regarding the committee's comprehensive review of Bylaw 16 (Awards and Benefits). During its update, the committee noted the opportunity to modernize legislation that focuses on awards, expenses for practice and competition,

and other select benefits. The committee expects to provide the council with recommended changes for its consideration in spring 2025.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:  
Hartung,  
Higgins, Turner

Council Rep:  
Stiles

(7) **Membership Committee.**

• **Sport Sponsorship Appeal Decision.**

Management Council. The council upheld the decision by the Division III Membership Committee to deny an institution's request to waive the minimum sports-sponsorship requirement for the 2023-24 academic year in men's outdoor track and field. In upholding the committee's decision, the council noted the committee did not improperly apply NCAA legislation or official interpretations, did not take an action inconsistent with established precedent, and did not deviate from its approved procedures or that the decision was clearly erroneous. *(Note: Per Management Council policy, Bill Stiles as the Membership Committee representative abstained from voting on the appeal.)*

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:  
Roe, Mucci

Council Rep:  
Bothner

(8) **Nominating Committee.**

(a) **Governance Committee Appointments.**

Management Council. The council approved the reappointment of Charles Foster, director of athletics, Mississippi University for Women, St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference to the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for a four-year term effective January 18, 2025

The council approved the following governance committee appointments:

- NCAA Division III Championships Committee. Ashley (Hodges) Wagner, director of athletics and wellness, Notre Dame of Maryland University, United East Conference.
- NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. Taylor Teixeira, associate executive director, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.

- NCAA Division III Infractions Appeals Committee. John Czarnecki, director of athletics, State University of New York Polytechnic Institute, Empire 8.
- NCAA Division III Membership Committee. Brian Johnson, assistant director of athletics for diversity, equity and inclusion, North Central College, College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin.
- NCAA Division III Nominating Committee. Brad Bankston, commissioner, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
- NCAA Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee. Chris Spells, director of athletics and recreation, University of California, Santa Cruz, Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference.
- NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Nadia Simmons, North Carolina Wesleyan University, USA South Athletic Conference; Jack Bell, Luther College, American Rivers Conference; Dominic Petruzzelli, Neumann University, Atlantic East Conference; Hasan Hammad, Christopher Newport University, Coast-to-Coast Athletic Conference; Elizabeth Carleton, University of Rochester, Liberty League; and Olivia Gentry, Springfield College, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(b) Management Council Appointments.**

Management Council. The council recommended that the Presidents Council approve the following appointments to the Management Council, effective at the conclusion of the 2025 NCAA Convention (four-year terms through the 2029 Convention unless otherwise noted).

- Russell Rogers, assistant vice president and director of athletics and recreation, Stevens Institute of Technology, Middle Atlantic Conference (three-year term through January 2028).
- Andrea Savage, executive director, New England Small College Athletic Conference.

- Patrick Summers, executive director, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (three-year term through January 2028).
- Melissa Baumann, president, Ohio Northern University, Ohio Athletic Conference.

Presidents Council. The council approved the appointments as recommended. An electronic vote will be sent to all directors of athletics and commissioners to confirm the four nominations.

**(c) Presidents Council Appointments.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council approved the following nominations to begin terms on the Presidents Council effective at the conclusion of the 2025 NCAA Convention. An electronic vote will be sent to all presidents/chancellors to confirm the two nominations.

- Lake Lambert III, president, Hanover College, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference.
- Alberto Cardelle, president, State University of New York at Oneonta, State University of New York Athletic Conference.

**(9) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received a summary of the committee's recent meetings from the SAAC representatives that included the following highlights.

- The Division III SAAC interviewed NCAA President Charlie Baker for the first episode of its Hot Topics podcast. Topics included congressional engagement, NIL, and #whyD3. The full interview is available on YouTube and DIII SAAC Instagram.
- The Mental and Physical Health Subcommittee is hosting a virtual town hall Nov. 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern addressing the theme of #ThriveTogether.
- The committee participated in the NCAA Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign – One Step Forward. Participants posted on themes of diversity, inclusion and belonging.

**Staff Liaisons:**  
Mucci, Spungen,  
Trovato,  
Youngblood

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

- The Sports Ethics and Fan Behavior Subcommittee celebrated the Fall Officials Appreciation week and has kicked off its positive game environment social media campaign.

**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 council reviewed the committee's report, noting that many of the key items will be addressed during the Sport Science Institute's update in Item 6-d on page 20. The council also acted on the request from the CSMAS to adopt noncontroversial legislation regarding the committee's composition requirements. [See Item 4-a-(4) on page 15.]

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:  
Hubbard, Miron

Council Rep:  
Lamb

**(2) Committee on Women's Athletics.**

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:  
Miron, Blair  
Hackworth,  
Kennedy

Council Rep:  
Lamb

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

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

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:  
Lawrence,  
Loechel, Register

Council Rep:  
Brown

**(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 committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

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

Management Council. The council reviewed the panel's most recent reports. The council discussed the recently adopted rule in ice hockey regarding overtime (using a shootout to determine a winner). The Division III representatives on the ice hockey rules committee considered federating the rule but ultimately approved it as a common rule. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel consequently adopted it as presented. Staff informed the council that waiver opportunities were available to the membership for situations in which an institution is unable to conduct the shootout. Finally, staff informed the council that the playing rule can be reviewed prior to the next playing season.

The council also discussed sports for which playing rules are overseen by a non-NCAA governing body. Staff noted that PROP will discuss a possible review of those sports and whether the extent of the rules modifications warrant establishing an NCAA playing rules committee.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(7) **Postgraduate Scholarship 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:  
Lamb

4. **2025 NCAA CONVENTION LEGISLATION.**

a. **Noncontroversial Legislation.**

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, the following noncontroversial legislation proposals:

- (1) **Expenses – Professional Team.** Permit a student-athlete to accept actual and necessary expense from a professional athletics team to participate in a tryout with that team beyond the current 48-hour limit.
- (2) **Intercollegiate Competition.** Clarify the definition of intercollegiate competition in Bylaws 14 (Eligibility) and 17 (Playing and Practice Seasons).
- (3) **Presidential Committee Terms.** Require all terms on Division III committees to be four years, including for presidents and chancellors.

- (4) **Endocrinology Expertise on Committee for Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.** Specify that the position on the CSMAS 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.”
- (5) **Consolidation of Associate-wide DEI Committees.** Consolidate the Committee on Women’s Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and the Gender Equity Task Force into one comprehensive committee that will focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**b. Membership-Sponsored Legislation – Governance Position.**

- (1) **Federated Playing Rules Exemptions.**

Management Council. The council supported the proposal to establish a process by which Division III may consider federating sport-specific playing rules that have either a substantive financial impact or impact a Division III fundamental principle. The council believes the proposal will enhance the input from Division III representatives in determining which playing rules are most appropriately federated.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (2) **Multisport Conference Membership Size Minimum Requirement.**

Management Council. The council supported the proposal to reduce the minimum composition requirements for conference membership from seven institutions to six. The council believes the proposal appropriately aligns the multisport conference size requirement with the current automatic qualifier standard, and it provides institutions and conferences with consistency and clarity. Additionally, it appropriately considers the geography of the division and allows for greater flexibility to conferences and institutions in more geographically isolated parts of the country.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed the proposal, as it was considered presidential in nature, and was supportive.

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

Management Council. The council supported the proposal to allow for each multisport conference and the group of independents to have a primary representative on the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The council believes the proposal provides more clarity and consistency in the role of committee members.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed the proposal, as it was considered presidential in nature, and was supportive.

**c. Proposal Groupings.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved the following groupings and order for the 2025 NCAA Convention proposals:

**(1) Presidents' Grouping.**

1. Proposal No. 2025-1 Division III Committees – Eligibility of Membership – Student-Athlete Advisory Committee -- Change in Composition.
2. Proposal No. 2025-2 Multisport Conference Membership Size Minimum Requirement.
3. Proposal No. 2025-3 Legislative Authority and Process – Amendment Process – Amend the Legislative Process.

A fourth proposal originally slated for the Presidents' Grouping that would create an exception for graduated students enrolled at a non-member institution that has a formal academic relationship with a Division III institution was sponsored by the Management Council; however, as it was presidential in nature and subject to Presidents Council review, the Presidents Council chose to send the proposal back to the Management Council (and ultimately to the Division III Membership Committee, from which the proposal originated) for further review. The Presidents Council supported the concept in general, as it intends to expand participation opportunities and provide flexibility for institutions that do not offer the specific graduate program, but the presidents 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. Pending input and revision from the Membership Committee and Management Council, the Presidents Council could revisit the proposal during its April 2025 meeting.]



**(2) General Grouping.**

1. Proposal No. 2025-4 Federated Playing Rules Exemptions.
2. Proposal No. 2025-5 Division Membership – Change of Division Membership – Three-Year Provision – Establish a Waiver.
3. Proposal No. 2025-6 National Collegiate Championship – Women's Wrestling.

**d. Administrative Regulations.**

- **ADM 2025-5 Executive Regulations – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – Selection Decisions of Sport Committees – Pairings and Site Selection.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, an administrative regulation to clarify (1) that conference members will not compete against each other in the first round of an NCAA championship; and (2) seeding will not determine hosts for NCAA championships, but it may be a consideration.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**e. Convention registration, logistics and schedules.**

Management Council. The council reviewed registration, meeting schedules and logistics for the Convention.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**5. DIVISION III INITIATIVES AND UPDATES.**

**a. Athletic Trainer Working Group.**

Management Council. The council approved the requests from the working group to sunset the working group and assess the impact of the working group's recommendations no later than January 2026. The council thanked the working group for its work and its final recommendations that were distributed to the membership in September 2024. (See the [Division III Athletic Trainer Recruitment and Retainment Resource](#) on [ncaa.org](http://ncaa.org).)

Presidents Council. The council thanked the working group for its year-long review and recommendations to improve the recruitment and retention of Division III athletic trainers.

**b. Faculty Athletics Representative Advisory Group.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the advisory group's most recent report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**c. Review of the Federated Rules Process.**

Management Council. The council discussed the findings from the review of the division's federated playing rules process approved in July 2023. The review was conducted to determine if the process was being implemented appropriately and whether improvements could be made. The council approved two amendments to the process, the first of which is to establish a standard orientation for the committee members involved in the process and develop a policies and procedures resource. The second is 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. *(Note: The council noted this action and the Convention proposal to provide federated playing rules exemptions are mutually exclusive.)*

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**d. Sportsmanship.**

Management Council. The council received an update on the current resources the national office provides to the membership to help address sportsmanship.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**e. Live Streaming of Division III Championships.**

Management Council. The council received an update on live streaming for the fall championships, noting in particular that ESPN will broadcast all preliminary-round games of the 2024 Division III Football Championship on ESPN+. Staff also noted the negotiations with ESPN regarding the number of cameras required for streaming those games this year and in subsequent years. ESPN ultimately wants each host to provide four cameras but is willing to take a stairstep approach for campuses to be able to meet that minimum (i.e., retain the current one-camera requirement for this year and gradually increase in future years). The Division III Football Committee will collaborate with and survey the football sponsoring membership to develop a camera minimum and host stipend recommendation for the 2025-26 season. The Championships Committee will act on the recommendation during its February 2025 meeting. Staff also updated the committee on streaming for the 2024 Division III Women's Volleyball Championship. The semifinal and final matches were already slated to be aired on ESPN+, but now since the quarterfinals are being held at the same site, ESPN will

also live stream those matches on ESPN+. Additionally, staff is working internally to distribute an RFI to create an NCAA streaming platform.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**f. Division III Branding, Promotions and Social Media.**

Management Council. The council reviewed key items from the College Sports Communicators' quarterly report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**g. Technology Users Group.**

Management Council. The council approved a request from the users group to sunset the group.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**h. Athletics Communications Working Group.**

Management Council. The council received an update from the working group's initial meeting, noting that the group plans to update the "Guide to Strategic Athletics Communication on Campus" that was last updated in 2019.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**i. Health and Safety Initiatives.**

Management Council. The council received an update regarding mental health and safety initiatives being implemented in the current academic year, including the health and safety grant for which Division III member institutions can be reimbursed up to \$2,000 for specific uses. The grant will be available for the 2025-26 academic year as well. Staff is also exploring relationships with a national mental health services provider to potentially offer training to coaches and athletic trainers.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**6. ASSOCIATION-WIDE UPDATES AND ISSUES.**

**a. Update from NCAA President Charlie Baker.**

Management Council. President Baker joined the meeting virtually to update the council on a number of initiatives and plans for the coming year.

Presidents Council. The council received this update during the meeting with the Presidents Advisory Group.

**b. Board of Governors Updates.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the reports from the board's August meeting, noting the action to consolidate the existing DEI committees into one body to focus on Association-wide issues in that space. [See Item 4-a-(5) on page 15.] Because this is a common provision, it will require approval from all three divisions. The council also approved the referral to the Honors Committee to amend its duties to include oversight and management of the NCAA Woman of the Year Award.

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 October meeting that occurred immediately after the council meeting.

**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 and Presidents Councils. NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Deena Casiero updated the councils on the following key topics:

- (1) **SSI goals and vision.** Dr. Casiero shared the goals for SSI, which include continued focus on health, safety and performance as part of Association-wide decision making, enhancing relationships with sports medicine teams, developing and providing practical guidance based on the needs of the membership, and continuing to seek opportunities to build efficiencies and improve processes.
- (2) **Sports Betting.** The councils received an update from the September NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports meeting regarding its discussion of sports betting. While generally, policy prohibitions are ineffective at stopping unwanted gambling behaviors, it is unclear how deregulation of the current legislation would impact gambling behaviors. However, harm reduction strategies are and will continue to be important.
- (3) **Mental Health.** The staff advised that the current mental health best practices document is available and was effective August 1, 2024. The councils were also informed of other resources that are available to the membership.

- (4) **Cannabis.** The councils were informed of the educational resources currently available to the membership and were advised of additional resources being developed that include a one-pager debunking common myths, tips to moving to a harm-reduction strategy, and updating the substance misuse toolkit.

**e. Sports Betting Discussion.**

Management Council. The council engaged in a discussion of the current NCAA sports wagering legislation after having received updates from the NCAA office of legal affairs, Sports Science Institute, and NCAA President Charlie Baker regarding sports betting. The council discussed the pros and cons to deregulating the current prohibition of betting on professional sports. Members also discussed the type of information that would best support a harm-reduction strategy for sports betting.

Presidents Council. The council also engaged in discussion regarding this topic, both during its meeting with the Presidents Advisory Group and during its meeting. Council members weighed the pros and cons with deregulation, noting that the concerns are relevant, and that opinions still need to be vetted, particularly as they relate to the Division III philosophy. As with the Management Council, Presidents Council members were interested in the type of information that would best support a harm-reduction strategy for sports betting for student-athletes and students alike (regardless of whether deregulation ultimately were to be recommended). The council will continue to discuss this topic and may consider possible action at a future meeting. Prior to any action, the councils will review and discuss the results from a recently administered Association-wide survey on sports betting behaviors among student-athletes. Those survey results are expected to be available in January.

**f. Management Council Open Forum.**

Management Council. The council discussed topics to include on future meeting agendas, including the status of issues involving transgender student-athletes and how feedback is collected from the membership that is used to inform governance decisions.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**g. Governmental Relations Report.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received an update from the NCAA governmental relations staff. No action was necessary.

**7. ADJOURNMENT.**

Management Council. The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m. Eastern time on October 21 and at 11:11 a.m. Eastern time on October 22.

Presidents Council. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m. Eastern time October 29.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

Presidents Council. The council convened an executive session from 11:15 to 11:30 a.m. Eastern time October 29.