



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 18-19, 2020, IN-PERSON MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

1. The committee approved Warren Wilson College for provisional membership and Manor College for exploratory membership.
2. The committee approved a waiver of Bylaw 20.11.3 (sports sponsorship) from Berea College.
3. The committee approved a conference rules seminar to be held in York, Pennsylvania in 2021.

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The chair, Laura Mooney, commenced business at 8 a.m. Eastern time Tuesday, February 18, 2020. The chair welcomed the following new members of the committee to their first in-person meeting: Michael Fransden, Wittenberg University; Jan Hathorn, Washington and Lee University; Erica Lemm, Mount Holyoke College; Monique McLean, Trinity Washington University; and Elliott Strickland, Pennsylvania College of Technology.
2. **Roster and Conflict of Interest.** Committee members were reminded of the NCAA Conflict of Interest Policy and proper procedures for recusal if a conflict of interest might arise. Committee members reviewed the conflict of interest document and updated any conflicts as necessary. Committee members followed the recusal procedures during all deliberations.
3. **Policies and Procedures.** The staff provided the committee with its policies and procedures for review.
4. **November 2019 teleconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved the November 21, 2019 teleconference report.

5. Division III Provisional and Reclassifying Membership.

- a. Transition plan for new membership process timeline. Staff reviewed the new membership process timeline with the committee and noted the changes that resulted from NCAA Proposal Nos. 2020-2 and 2020-3. The provisional membership process will move from four to three years of provisional membership and one year of exploratory membership. The reclassifying process will move from four to three years with no requirement for a year of exploratory membership. The changes will be effective August 1, 2020.
- b. Applications for exploratory membership. The committee reviewed and approved an exploratory application from Manor College (Pennsylvania). In its review, the committee found that the institution met the conditions and obligations for application to explore Division III and determined that staff and a representative from the committee should conduct a visit to Manor's campus during the exploratory year.
- c. Applications for provisional membership. The committee reviewed and took action on provisional membership applications from the following institutions:
 - (1) Bob Jones University (South Carolina) – The committee determined the provisional membership application was inadequate and required the institution to submit a revised application by March 26, 2020; and
 - (2) Warren Wilson College (North Carolina) – In its review, the committee found that the application met the conditions and obligations to begin year one of the Division III provisional membership process.
- d. Provisional/Reclassifying/Exploratory chart and mentor assignments. The committee reviewed the provisional/reclassifying/exploratory member chart and assigned Elliott Strickland and Laura Mooney as committee mentors to Manor College.

The committee also reviewed the provisional/reclassifying/exploratory member chart and assigned committee mentors to institutions whose previous mentors are no longer serving on the committee or will conclude committee service in January 2021.

- (1) Brevard College (North Carolina) – Jessica Huntley;
- (2) Delhi State University of New York (New York) – Charley Jacobs; and
- (3) Warren Wilson College (North Carolina) – Jan Hathorn.

- e. Convention attendance for provisional and reclassifying members. The committee discussed the provisional and reclassifying member institutions and noted that all had representation at the 2020 NCAA Convention Division III Issues Forum and Business Session.
- 6. Review of Recommended Changes to Membership Process Materials.** The committee reviewed recommended changes to several membership process documents. The changes resulted from the new membership process legislation adopted at the 2020 NCAA Convention.
- a. New member calendar of activities. The committee reviewed the new member calendar of activities and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - b. Exploratory application. The committee reviewed the exploratory application and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - c. Provisional/reclassifying membership application. The committee reviewed the provisional/reclassifying membership application and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - d. Provisional and reclassifying membership FAQ document. The committee reviewed the provisional and reclassifying membership FAQ document and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - e. Financial aid transition breakdown. The committee reviewed the financial aid transition breakdown and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - f. Championship selection criteria. The committee reviewed the championship selection criteria and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - g. Single-sport conference application. The committee reviewed the single-sport conference application and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.
 - h. Multisport conference application. The committee reviewed the multisport conference application and directed staff to amend the document to reflect the staff's and committee's suggestions.

7. **Conference Membership.** The committee received an update from staff on current conference membership and realignments. Additionally, the committee discussed an interpretative appeal to the Division III Management Council regarding the waiting period for conference automatic qualification (AQ). The committee took no action.
8. **Division III Active Membership.**
 - a. 2020 NCAA Convention attendance – Constitution 3.2.4.15. Staff notified the committee all current, active Division III institutions were present and voted at the 2020 NCAA Convention Business Session.
 - b. Departing Division III institutions. Staff notified the committee that D’Youville College submitted an application to transition its membership to Division II. If approved, the institution would begin the Division II membership process in fall 2020. It is anticipated that overall Division III membership will increase for the 2020-21 academic year, given the current year four institutions likely to achieve active status August 1, 2020.
 - c. Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee proposed amendment to Division I Bylaw 20.5.1. Staff provided the committee with an update regarding a potential legislative change that would allow Division III institutions to reclassify directly to Division I.
 - d. Potential legislative change to Bylaw 20.11.3.8.5. Staff provided the committee with information on a recent legislative change adopted by Division II. Specifically, the new legislation requires that multiteam events in individual sports to be counted as a single contest for sports-sponsorship purposes. The committee did not support pursuing similar legislation in Division III.
 - e. Potential Expansion/Refinement of Division III Sports-Sponsorship Audit. The committee discussed a potential expansion and/or refinement of the Division III sports-sponsorship audit. Staff informed the committee of the current audit process and what options could be considered in the future. The committee charged staff to analyze sports-sponsorship trends in Division III and provide a report at a future meeting. With that information, the committee felt it would be better positioned to recommend potential changes to the current audit process which includes a random selection and for-cause component.

9. Educational Initiatives.

- a. 2020 NCAA Regional Rules Seminars. Staff provided the committee with a list of institutions that are required to attend the 2020 Regional Rules Seminars in either Columbus, Ohio, or Los Angeles, California. Staff noted that institutions are provided regular reminders to encourage them to register as early as possible.
- b. Conference Rules Seminar Application. Staff notified the committee that there is a Conference Rules Seminar scheduled for 2020 in Worcester, Massachusetts. The committee also reviewed and approved an application from conferences in the York, Pennsylvania, area for a seminar to be conducted in 2021. The committee chose June 16, 2021, as the date for the seminar.
- c. NCAA Inclusion Forum. Staff reminded the committee that the 2020 NCAA Inclusion Forum will be held April 17-19 in Denver, Colorado. Committee members were encouraged to remind their mentee provisional/reclassifying institutions the Inclusion Forum satisfies the provisional/reclassifying educational requirement for the faculty athletics representative and senior woman administrator professional development. Additionally, at least one senior-level administrator (e.g., chancellor or president, athletics direct report, Title IX officer, dean of students) that does not work in an athletics department at a provisional or reclassifying institution must attend the Inclusion Forum at least once during the membership process.

- 10. Feedback and Discussion of Timing for Annual Reception at Convention.** The committee provided staff with feedback on the timing of the annual new member reception at the Convention. The committee noted the engagement of all attendees and suggested that the conversations could have continued without prompting from staff. The chair strongly encouraged committee members to attend the event in 2021, even if they can only join for a portion of the event.
- 11. 2022 In-Person Meeting Dates.** The committee agreed to conduct its 2022 in-person meetings February 22-23, 2022, and June 21-22, 2022.
- 12. Division III Governance Update.** Louise McCleary, Managing Director of Division III, provided the committee with updates from the Convention and other pertinent items being discussed by the division.

- 13. Other Business.** The committee approved a waiver of Bylaw 20.11.3 (sports sponsorship) from Berea College for the 2019-20 academic year. In its review of the request to waive the three team sports involving all-male teams requirement, the committee noted extenuating circumstances. Specifically, the committee noted the institution canceled its baseball season due to violations of the Berea College Student-Athlete Code of Conduct and the Berea College Student Handbook by some of its baseball student-athletes. In addition, the committee noted that Berea intends to field a baseball team in the 2020-21 academic year.
- 14. Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 11:21 a.m. Eastern time February 19, 2020.

Committee Chair: Laura Mooney, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference

*Staff Liaisons: Eric Hartung, Division III Research
Tiffany Alford, Academic and Membership Affairs
Corey Berg, Academic and Membership Affairs*

NCAA Division III Membership Committee February 18-19, 2020, In-Person Meeting	
Attendees:	
William Fell, United States Merchant Marine Academy.	
Michael Frandsen, Wittenberg University.	
Jan Hathorn, Washington and Lee University.	
Jessica Huntley, Atlantic East Conference.	
Charley Jacobs, St. Norbert College.	
Erica Lemm, Mount Holyoke College.	
Monique McLean, Trinity Washington University.	
Laura Mooney, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.	
Elliott Strickland, Pennsylvania College of Technology.	
Megan Valentine, Hilbert College.	
Absentees	
None.	
Guests in Attendance	
Anyssa Barbosa, Louise McCleary and Jeff Myers.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance	
Tiffany Alford, Corey Berg, Debbie Brown and Eric Hartung.	