



**REPORT OF THE
DIVISION III STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 19-20, 2025, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Administrative items.**
 - a. Roster.** The committee reviewed and updated its current roster.
 - b. April 21 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report with no changes.
 - c. Review policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed its policies and procedures.
 - d. Expectations of a SAAC member.** The committee reviewed its expectations.
 - e. Roberts Rule of Order.** The committee reviewed Robert's Rule of Order guidelines document.
 - f. Division III Philosophy Statement and Strategic Positioning Platform.** The committee reviewed the Division III Philosophy Statement and Strategic Positioning Platform document.
- 2. Campus Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) contact information.** The committee reviewed the Division III campus SAAC liaison contact information, and is updating it to help communication between national, conference, and campus SAACs.
- 3. Committee assignments.** Committee and working group members gave an informational overview of their tasks and initiatives to encourage other committee members to consider involvement with the committees and working groups as opportunities evolve.
- 4. Division III SAAC subcommittees.** The committee selected the three areas for focus in the 2025-26 academic year: congressional engagement; mental and physical health, with an emphasis on life after sports; and "DIII Download," to encourage the membership understand more aspects of the division. The importance of committee participation in the subcommittee work was emphasized, and each subcommittee was encouraged to set goals to have a successful year. The committee affirmed its commitment to the Special Olympics partnership.
- 5. Division III and Association-wide committees and subcommittee updates.**
 - a. NCAA Division III and Association-Wide committees.** The committee representatives serving on Division III committees and Association-wide committees provided updates on the most recent meetings and reports.

- b. **Association-Wide Subcommittee updates.** The committee representatives serving on Association-wide subcommittees provided updates regarding the most recent meetings and reports.
6. **NCAA national office updates.**
- a. **Division III update.** The committee received updates from regarding a variety of current Division III initiatives, including the Mental Health First Aid program, championships livestreaming, coaches connect program. Also highlighted were efforts related to harm reduction strategies for sports wagering, and Bylaw 16 deregulation. The leadership of the division discussed the current legal landscape and challenges facing the Association and will continue to monitor circumstances for potential impact.
 - b. **NCAA office of legal affairs update.** The committee was informed of the ongoing legal cases the NCAA is currently facing, including the House injunction, eligibility, and employment.
 - c. **NCAA updates.** The committee was provided with information related to government relations, communications, and research. Current topics including the transfer portal, House Injunction, SCORE Act, NCAA Governance and name, image and likeness opportunities were discussed. The conversation emphasized congressional engagement and the importance of elevating the perspective of Division III student-athletes.
 - d. **Emerging sports for women legislative update.** The committee was informed of the new Association-wide committee forming this fall, the Committee on Access, Opportunity, and Impact, which will focus on issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. The process for adding new emerging sports and the current status of the five existing emerging sports was also highlighted.
 - e. **Development of the Inclusive Events resource.** The founder of the Inclusion Handbook joined the committee to discuss the development of the new resource. The committee provided feedback on inclusive events and insight into competitive and noncompetitive events across Division III.
 - f. **Discuss updates to Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign.** Potential changes to the social media campaign for diversity and inclusion were highlighted for the committee, who then brainstormed ideas to improve the campaign and a possible new name.
 - g. **Cross-divisional SAAC engagement update.** The committee was provided an update on the Board of Governors' cross-divisional SAAC engagement group. The proposed organizational structure for the group was approved, with participation consisting of the chairs of the divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committees. The committee also noted a joint statement of support in favor of the SCORE Act had

- h. **Board of Governors.** The committee was provided insight into several topics being reviewed by the board and provided feedback regarding strategies for advocating for Division III student-athletes and communicating actions of the board back to the committee which affect the student-athlete population.
- i. **Legislative discussion and updates.** The committee was provided with an overview of the Division III legislative process and reviewed the proposals for the 2026 NCAA Convention. The committee will revisit the slate of legislative proposals at its September videoconference before soliciting feedback from their conferences and take official positions at the November meeting.
- j. **Special Olympics partnership and updates.** The committee discussed the Special Olympics partnership and reviewed the reporting process for events. The final Special Olympics engagement report for the 2024-25 academic year was shared highlighting the nearly 3,000 student-athletes who dedicated over 9,000 hours to Special Olympics events throughout the year, while raising over \$17,000. The group participated in an event with athletes from the Special Olympics of Indiana at the conclusion of the meeting.

- a. **Conference and partner conference meetings.** The committee reviewed the list of partner conferences and had no updates. The committee has updated conference and campus advisor contacts in preparation for the new academic year.
- b. **Reminder of future meeting dates.**
 - (1) September/October 2025, date to be determined, virtual.
 - (2) November 9-10, 2025; virtual. (*tentative dates*)
 - (3) January 11-16, 2026; NCAA Convention, Washington, D.C.
 - (4) April, date to be determined, virtual
 - (5) July 18-19, 2026, Indianapolis

a. Discussed the opportunity for two SAAC members to attend FARA Annual Meeting November 21 in Indianapolis.

- b. Discussed the opportunity for two SAAC members to attend NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum November 21 in Dallas.

9. Adjournment.

Committee Chair: Lillian Case, Juniata College; Landmark Conference.

*Staff Liaisons: Ali Spungen, Division III Governance
Becca Trovato, Academic and Membership Affairs
Jonathan Youngblood, Championships*

NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee July 19-20, 2025, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Zoal Awad, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford; Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference	
Luana Batista Soares, University of Massachusetts; Little East Conference	
Jack Bell, Luther College; American Rivers Conference.	
Elizabeth Carleton, University of Rochester; Liberty League.	
Arturo Casas, Manchester University; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Lillian Case, Juniata College; Landmark Conference.	
RJ Casey, Connecticut College; New England Small College Athletic Conference	
Michael Cohen, Kings College; Middle Atlantic Athletic Conference	
Imani Gonzalez, Baruch College; City University of New York Athletic Conference.	
Holly Hall; Alma College; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	
Hasan Hammad, University of Mary Washington; Coast-to-Coast Conference.	
Olivia Hanson. Concordia College; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	
Josey Johnson, Otterbein University; Ohio Athletic Conference.	
Gavin Jones, Westminster; Presidents' Athletic Conference	
Jacob Keller, University of Wisconsin-Platteville; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Paige Kluba, Piedmont University; Collegiate Conference of the South	
Sebastian Knowles, Hartwick College; Empire 8.	
Lauren Krupmikoff, Simmons University; Great Northeast Athletic Conference	
Alfred Lamprey, University of Mount Saint Vincent; Skyline Division Athletic Conference	
Kimberly Lila, Berry College; Southern Athletic Association	
Teddy Lockhart III, William Patterson University; New Jersey Athletic Conference	
Shea McKenna, McDaniel College; Centennial Conference	
Ella Miller, Wisconsin Lutheran College; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference.	
Grace Moothart, Austin College; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Myranda Nash, Brevard College; USA South Athletic Conference	
Kyle Neibch, Wheaton College; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin	
Isabella Nesbeth, Grinnell College; Midwest Conference	

Josh Osae, SUNY Cortland; State University of New York Athletic Conference
Maeve Perry, Denison University; North Coast Athletic Conference
Dominic Petruzzelli, Neumann University; Atlantic East.
Morgan Shaw, Willamette University; Northwest Conference
Nadia Simmons, North Carolina Wesleyan; USA South.
Zoey Wexler, Western New England University; Conference of New England.
Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University; Old Dominion Athletic Conference
Oliver Williams, Westfield State University; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.
Christine Yu, Claremont Mckenna College; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
Edward Zazzali, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.
Absentees:
Julia Hathaway, Virginia Wesleyan University; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
Muthu Meenakshisundaram, Minnesota-Morris; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.
Ashlynn Voyles, Eureka College; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
Nathan Whisman, University of Valley Forge; United East Conference.
Guests in Attendance:
Ashland Johnson, Greg Ricketts
NCAA Staff Liaisons:
Ali Spungen, Becca Trovato, Jonathan Youngblood
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Niya Blair-Hackworth, Tim Buckley, Grace Hadlich, Ashlesha Lokhande, Jean Merrill, Louise McCleary, Leilyn Miles, Kaylen Overway and Bill Regan.