



REPORT OF THE
DIVISION III STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 9th and 13th, 2025, VIRTUAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Administrative items.**
 - a. **Roster.** The committee reviewed and updated its current roster.
 - b. **Review policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed its policies and procedures. The committee noted that a complete review would be done at its April meeting to determine if updates were needed, specifically in relation to member expectations, executive board criteria, composition, and committee representation.
 - c. **Expectations of a SAAC member.** The committee reviewed the expectations of a SAAC member and effective strategies to engage with conference and campus SAAC groups.
 - d. **Division III Philosophy Statement and Strategic Positioning Platform.** The committee reviewed the philosophy statement and the Strategic Positioning Platform.
 - e. **July 19-20, 2025, meeting report.** The committee approved the report with no changes.
2. **NCAA national office updates.**
 - a. **Cross divisional group of national SAAC members.** Eligibility Center Assistant Director Kaylen Overway visited the committee to provide an update on the key issues currently being prioritized by the Board of Governors. They include congressional engagement and strategy, emerging sports, new national championships, association-wide policies, litigation, and student-athlete health and safety (mental and physical).
 - b. **NCAA Board of Governors update.** The committee was visited by Greg Ricketts, the former Division III student-athlete representative now serving on the Board of Governors. Ricketts provided insight on several topics being reviewed by the board, including the SCORE Act, congressional engagement, and sports betting.
 - c. **Division III updates.** The committee received updates from Division III Vice President Louise McCleary and Division III Managing Director Bill Regan on several key matters within the division. Topics included mental health first aid, sports betting, livestreaming of championships, NCAA ID numbers, broadcast agreements,

APPLE Training Institute, litigation pertaining to eligibility and transgender student-athletes, congressional engagement, and the SCORE Act. The committee also received an update on the forthcoming holistic review of Division III, which will focus on clarifying and enhancing the student-athlete experience.

3. Strategic items.

- a. **NCAA ID numbers.** The committee reviewed and discussed the requirement for all Division III student-athletes to obtain a free NCAA ID number starting with the 2032 cohort, which can be done for free. The NCAA ID will be used for graduation tracking purposes, the transfer portal, and the potential benefits for post-eligibility insurance by providing contact information.
- b. **Legislative proposals for 2026 Convention.** The committee reviewed and took the following positions on the legislative proposals:
 - (1) Proposal 2026-1 – Establish a Division III Women’s Wrestling Championship. The committee voted to support the proposal [40-0-0].
 - (2) Proposal 2026-2 – Only Competition Triggering Use of a Season. The committee voted to support the proposal [25-13-2].
 - (3) NIL Resolution – The committee voted to support the resolution [34-0-6].
 - (4) Proposal 2026-3 – Amend In-Region Competition Requirement. The committee voted to support the proposal [40-0-0].
 - (5) Proposal 2026-4 – Multiple Automatic Qualifier Model. The committee voted to oppose the proposal [6-31-3].
 - (6) Proposal 2026-5 – Required Participation by Conference Core Members for AQ. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-1-2].
 - (7) Proposal 2026-6 – Adjust Waiting Period for Multisport Conference from Two to One Year. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-1-2].
 - (8) Proposal 2026-7 – Add a Mandatory Winter Break. The committee voted to support the proposal [30-5-5].
 - (9) Proposal 2026-8 – Require the Use of the NCAA Transfer Portal. The committee voted to support the proposal [36-1-3].
 - (10) Proposal 2026-9 – Meals for Prospective Student-Athletes and Their Guests. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-0-3].
 - (11) Proposal 2026-10 – Eliminate Distance and Location Restrictions. The committee voted to support the proposal [39-0-1].

- (12) Proposal 2026-11 – Remove Exact Dollar Amounts and References to Award Values. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-1-2].
- (13) Proposal 2026-12 – Permit Actual and Necessary Expenses for One All-Star Contest or Other Post-Eligibility Event. The committee voted to support the proposal [38-0-2].
- (14) Proposal 2026-13 – Professional Sports Tickets. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-1-2].
- (15) Proposal 2026-14 – Add Women's Flag Football to Emerging Sports for Women. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-0-3].
- (16) Proposal 2026-15 – Establish National Collegiate Championship for Acrobatics and Tumbling. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-0-3].
- (17) Proposal 2026-16 – Establish National Collegiate Championship for Stunt. The committee voted to support the proposal [37-0-3].

4. **Division III and Association-Wide committees and subcommittee updates.**

- a. **NCAA Division III and Association-Wide committees.** The committee representatives who serve 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 who serve on Association-wide subcommittees provided updates on the most recent meetings and reports.

5. **2026 NCAA Convention.**

- a. **Tentative Convention meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the tentative Convention meeting schedule.
- b. **Joint breakfast at Convention.** The committee discussed the agenda and plan for the Presidents Council, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee joint breakfast at Convention. The main presentation topic of the breakfast will be the upcoming Division III review and the student-athlete experience.
- c. **Plan for SAAC-sponsored student-athlete luncheon.** The committee was asked to submit all topic ideas for the roundtable discussions to the SAAC executive board. It was shared that some committee members received positive feedback and interest in discussing legislation. The committee will continue to discuss and determine the discussion topics best suited for the luncheon.
- d. **Ideas for student social mixer.** The committee reviewed the plans for the student social mixer.

- e. **Special Olympics event at Convention.** The committee reviewed the plans for the Special Olympics Unified activity in partnership with Special Olympics during the 2026 Convention.
- f. **Convention dress code.** The committee discussed the dress code for Convention and elected to bring back the tradition of picking a unified SAAC color, which all would wear during the business session. Light blue was the chosen color.
- g. **Convention waiver and responsibility statement.** The committee was informed that the waivers will be sent out electronically.
- h. **Conference meetings.** The committee reviewed best practices and how to prepare for conference meetings.

6. **Division III SAAC business and subcommittees.**

- a. **Special Olympics Partnership and updates.** Staff shared an update on the latest Special Olympics engagement from the membership. Division III is entering its 15th year of partnership with Special Olympics. A new logo will be unveiled during the Business Session at Convention to commemorate the milestone.
- b. **Division III subcommittee reports.**
 - (1) Mental and physical health. The Mental and Physical Health Subcommittee discussed the upcoming virtual town hall meeting and their success in executing their promotional campaigns via social media and email promotions. The subcommittee will continue to develop content and build upon the momentum it has garnered.
 - (2) Congressional engagement. The Congressional Engagement Subcommittee discussed the SCORE Act and its efforts to work with NCAA Assistant Director for External Affairs Austin Meo. The subcommittee will continue to engage with fellow student-athletes through social media posts and will provide updates and information during the upcoming virtual town hall.
 - (3) DIII Download. The DIII download subcommittee has been using social media to showcase Division III and its structure through crash courses on various topics like football, SAAC, and the Division's partnership with Special Olympics. The subcommittee will begin highlighting National SAAC and the upcoming Convention through blogs, trivia, and a behind-the-scenes look at what takes place at Convention.
- c. **Election of executive board members and committee assignments.** The national office and SAAC members shared information regarding the Division III committees' subject matter and positions. The committee was asked to select representatives for the following Division III committees: Presidents Council, Championships, Financial Aid, Membership, Nominating, and the Diversity, Equity,

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and Inclusion subcommittee. The following individuals were elected to the National SAAC executive board:

- (1) Chair: Josey Johnson, Capital University; Ohio Athletic Conference
- (2) Communications director: Holly Hall, Alma College; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association

7. Informational items and other business.

a. Future meeting dates.

- January 12-16, 2026, National Harbor Gaylord.
- April 2026, Virtual.
- July 18-19, 2026, Indianapolis.

b. Division III 2024-25 Annual Report and 2025-26 Facts and Figures. The committee reviewed the 2024-25 annual report and the 2025-26 facts and figures.

c. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned Thursday, November 13, 8:37 p.m.

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

*Staff Liaisons: Ali Spungen, Division III Governance and Member Services
Bryn Mangold, Division III Governance and Member Services
Becca Trovato, Division III Governance and Member Services
Jonathan Youngblood, Championships*

NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee November 9th and 13th, 2025, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Zoal Awad, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford; Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.	
Luana Batista Soares, University of Massachusetts, Boston; Little East Conference.	
Jack Bell, Luther College; American Rivers Conference.	
Jameson Bloch, University of Maine at Farmington; North Atlantic 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.	
Connor Dong, University of Chicago; University Athletic Association.	
Imani Gonzalez, Baruch College; City University of New York Athletic Conference.	
Holly Hall; Alma College; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Olivia Hanson. Concordia College; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Julia Hathaway, Virginia Wesleyan University; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.	
Josey Johnson, Capital University; Ohio Athletic Conference.	
Gavin Jones, Westminster; Presidents' Athletic Conference.	
McKenzie Jones, East Baptist University; American Southwest 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 Krupnikoff, Simmons University; Great Northeast Athletic Conference.	
Teddy Lockhart III, William Patterson University; New Jersey Athletic Conference.	
Shea McKenna, McDaniel College; Centennial Conference.	
Grace Moothart, Austin College; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.	
Myranda Nash, Brevard College; USA South Athletic Conference.	
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.	
Nadia Simmons, North Carolina Wesleyan; USA South.	
Zoey Wexler, Western New England University; Conference of New England.	
Oliver Williams, Westfield State University; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.	

Edward Zazzali, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.
November 9th Absentees:
Emily Alicea, Pacific Lutheran University; Northwest Conference.
Hasan Hammad, University of Mary Washington; Coast-to-Coast Conference.
Alfred Lamptey, University of Mount Saint Vincent; Skyline Division Athletic Conference.
Kimberly Lila, Berry College; Southern Athletic Association.
Nathan Whisman, University of Valley Forge; United East Conference.
Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
Christine Yu, Claremont McKenna College; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
November 13th Absentees:
Hasan Hammad, University of Mary Washington; Coast-to-Coast Conference.
Muthu Meenakshisundaram, Minnesota-Morris; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.
Ella Miller, Wisconsin Lutheran College; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference.
Kyle Neibch, Wheaton College; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin.
Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
Guests in Attendance:
Greg Ricketts.
NCAA Staff Liaisons:
Bryn Mangold, Ali Spungen, Becca Trovato and Jonathan Youngblood.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Grace Hadlich, Louise McCleary, Kaylen Overway and Bill Regan.