



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ATHLETICS
APRIL 24-25, 2019, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Legislative items.**

- a. **Division Membership, Personnel, Amateurism, Financial Aid and Playing and Practice Seasons – Emerging Sports for Women - Women's Wrestling.**

- (1) Recommendation. To add women's wrestling as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to athletics personnel, amateurism, recruiting, financial aid, playing and practice seasons and membership, as specified.

- (2) Effective date. Aug. 1, 2020.

- (3) Rationale. The continued growth in high school girls wrestling and the number of collegiate institutions sponsoring the sport support this recommendation. In addition, the sport is relatively inexpensive to sponsor. Finally, there is a commitment at the collegiate level to increase participation opportunities for a more diverse population of student-athletes (e.g., race and ethnicity, nationality, socio-economic status and body size and type), as well as to increase coaching opportunities for a more diverse population of female coaches in intercollegiate women's wrestling.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. Budget impact is based on institutional decisions related to sponsorship.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. This legislation will grow meaningful intercollegiate sport participation opportunities for female student-athletes.

- b. **Division Membership, Personnel, Amateurism, Financial Aid and Playing and Practice Seasons – Emerging Sports for Women - Acrobatics and Tumbling.**

- (1) Recommendation. To add acrobatics and tumbling as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to athletics personnel, amateurism, recruiting, financial aid, playing and practice seasons and membership, as specified.

- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2020.

- (3) Rationale. The sport's potential for growth and support from the sport's national governing body supports this recommendation. In addition, acrobatics and tumbling leadership demonstrated and articulated how the experience of an acrobatics and tumbling student-athlete is comparable to the experience of an NCAA sport student-

athlete and how acrobatics and tumbling student-athletes are fully integrated into athletics departments. Further, the existing organizational structure and bylaws supports efforts to integrate NCAA values and legislation into current operations. Finally, there is a commitment at the collegiate level to providing robust participation opportunities during the regular season and post season, including the national championship.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Budget impact is based on institutional decisions related to sponsorship.

(5) Student-athlete impact. This legislation will grow meaningful intercollegiate sport participation opportunities for female student-athletes.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements.** The chair commenced business at 1 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the following new committee members to their first in-person meeting: David Kuhlmeier, Valencia Jordan, Sharod Williams and Lauren Yacks. The committee also reviewed its mission statement.
2. **NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics February 26, 2019, teleconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved the February 26, 2019, teleconference report.
3. **NCAA Emerging Sports for Women updates.** The committee reviewed updates submitted by leaders from each of the current emerging sports for women: Equestrian, Rugby and Triathlon.
4. **USA Triathlon Emerging Sport Grant.** The committee discussed the USA Triathlon Emerging Sport Grant and whether committee members should serve on the USAT Emerging Sport Grant selection committee as representatives of CWA. The committee agreed that CWA members serving on the selection committee could present a real or perceived conflict of interest, and, therefore, should not serve as representatives of CWA.
5. **NCAA Emerging Sports for Women Proposals.** The committee recommended that all three divisions take the appropriate legislative action to add women's wrestling and acrobatics and tumbling to the emerging sports for women program. The committee denied the request to add STUNT to the emerging sports for women program and determined STUNT is not viable as an emerging sport at this time. In its denial, the committee noted that the STUNT proposal and subsequent information and documentation did not sufficiently demonstrate that STUNT is philosophically and operationally separate from cheer or that STUNT offers a robust student-athlete experience comparable to NCAA sports.
6. **Proposed amendments to regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.** The committee received an overview of the letter sent to Department

of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos from the American Council on Education, co-signed by the NCAA, in response to the department's November 29, 2018, notice of proposed changes to the implementation of Title IX as it pertains to sexual assault.

- 7. NCAA Commission to Combat Campus Sexual Violence.** The committee received an overview of the final report of the Commission to Combat Campus Sexual Violence. Specifically, the commission suggested that NCAA staff provide enhanced education and resources to the membership and encouraged the NCAA Board of Governors to direct the divisional governance bodies to consider legislation that reflects an Association-wide approach to individual accountability. The committee noted support for legislative and policy changes to support education and prevention resources, as well as increased accountability measures.
- 8. Feedback for the NCAA Sport Science Institute sexual violence prevention tool kit.** The committee reviewed and supported recent updates to the NCAA Sport Science Institute sexual violence prevention tool kit.
- 9. Review of the 2019 NCAA Woman of the Year Award.** The committee reviewed the 2019 NCAA Woman of the Year program and selected members to serve on the 2019 Woman of the Year selection subcommittee.
- 10. Review of NCAA Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity February 21, 2019, teleconference report.** The committee received a report of the CPCDE February 21, 2019, teleconference.
- 11. Review of NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee February 14, 2019, teleconference report.** The committee received the report of the MOIC February 14, 2019, teleconference.
- 12. Review of the NCAA Gender Equity Task Force September 12, 2018, meeting report.** The committee received a report of the GETF September 12, 2018, meeting.
- 13. Future meeting dates.**
 - a. September 11-12, 2019, at the NCAA national office.
 - b. February 2019, committee teleconference.
- 14. Recognition of members who will complete their term of service.** The committee thanked Karen Baebler, Anne Blackhurst, Julie Cromer Peoples, Jim Donovan and Donna Ledwin for their service on the committee, noting this was their last in-person meeting.

15. Selection of chair and vice-chair. The committee elected Denise Udelhofen as chair and John Kietzmann as vice-chair.

Committee Chair: Julie Cromer Peoples, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Staff Liaison(s): Kristin Fasbender, Championships and Alliances
 Jan Gentry, Championships and Alliances
 Jean Merrill, Office of Inclusion
 Karen Metzger, Academic and Membership Affairs
 Shay Wallach, Office of Inclusion

NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics April 24-25, 2019, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Karen Baebler, University of Washington.	
Julie Cromer Peoples, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.	
James Donovan, California State University, Fullerton.	
Jason Doviak, Alfred State College.	
Marjorie Hass, Rhodes College.	
Marc Johnson, University of Nevada, Reno.	
Valencia Jordan, Tennessee State University.	
Samantha Kastner, Notre Dame of Maryland University.	
John Kietzmann, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
David Kuhlmeier, Valdosta State University.	
Donna Ledwin, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.	
Suzette McQueen, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Denise Udelhofen, Loras College.	
Sharod Williams, Conference Carolinas.	
Absentees:	
Anne Blackhurst, Minnesota State University Moorhead.	
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:	
Jan Gentry, Jean Merrill, Karen Metzger and Shay Wallach.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Cari Van Senus and Amy Wilson.	