



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
APRIL 25, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

KEY ITEMS.

1. The NCAA Board of Governors approved a new penalty structure for the NCAA Policy on Campus Sexual Violence, effective for attestations completed by institutions starting in the fall 2024 based on adherence to the policy requirements in the 2023-24 academic year, as follows:
 - a. Elimination of the penalty prohibiting non-attesting schools from hosting NCAA championship competitions;
 - b. Instituting a \$5,000 fine for schools that fail to submit an attestation form, and listing the schools on the NCAA website as not attesting to the policy;
 - c. Listing schools that submit an attestation form after the deadline (or the revised deadline) on the NCAA website as attesting late; and
 - d. Granting a 10-calendar day extension to any school that requests an extension before the original prescribed deadline, which will result in a revised deadline. [Note: The penalties of a fine and listing the school on the NCAA website will be applied to schools that submit an attestation form after the deadline in multiple years.]
2. The Board of Governors approved an Association-wide budget allocation to: (a) Fund a women's wrestling national collegiate championship and to establish a women's wrestling committee; and (b) Move oversight of the budget to Division I consistent with all other national collegiate championships, effective in fiscal year 2025 with the first championship in the 2025-26 academic year.
3. The Board of Governors approved an Association-wide budget allocation to: (a) Fund the seeding of 16 teams in the FCS football championship; and (b) Move oversight of the budget to Division I.

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the meeting at approximately 1:02 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the Governors.
2. **Consent agenda.** By way of a consent agenda, the Board of Governors approved two items including: (a) the January 10, meeting, and March 26, videoconference reports; and (b) updates to the NCAA Board of Governors Policies and Procedures.

3. **NCAA President's report and sports wagering update.** The board will discuss the sports wagering agenda item during a future meeting.
4. **Overview of the evaluation process for the NCAA president.** NCAA staff provided an update on the evaluation process and timeline for the NCAA President. It was noted that the evaluation process opens on June 24 and closes on July 19, with a final report to be provided to the chair of the board in early August. This is a new process that per the NCAA Constitution requires consultation with the divisional governance bodies; therefore, feedback will be sought from the members of the divisional Administrative Committees.
5. **Update and next steps regarding congressional engagement & action.** NCAA staff provided an update on the progress being made with congressional engagement efforts. It was noted that schools and conferences are increasingly making their voices heard by continuing to reach out to members of Congress. Specifically, staff noted that 83 of the 97 Divisions I, II and III conferences signed on to letters sent to Congress on issues important to student-athletes, and campus and conference stakeholders. Higher education associations have also joined the NCAA in its efforts, which helps with the progress being made with members of Congress. In addition, members of Congress and leaders in intercollegiate athletics continue to discuss concerns with an employment model. Finally, it was noted that continued outreach efforts by the membership is needed to keep intercollegiate athletics issues at the forefront for members of Congress as negotiations are underway on a potential bi-partisan bill.
6. **NCAA Events and Anti-Discrimination Policy.** NCAA staff provided an overview of the policy, how it is implemented and expectations for hosts of NCAA championships and other events. It was noted that staff is developing a resource for the membership on the policy.
7. **NCAA Sport Science Institute/NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports update.** The NCAA chief medical officer provided an update on the work of the Sport Science Institute and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. Specifically, the chief medical officer noted: (a) An overview of the cannabinoid education plan to be implemented after the adoption of divisional legislation to remove cannabinoids from the NCAA banned drug list; (b) An update on a future meeting of the CSMAS Training and Performance Advisory Group; (c) An update on the progress in the development of policies and procedures to support the Division I Holistic Model, including specific evidence- and consensus-based documents that schools will be required to attest their compliance; and (d) An update on the execution of education and socialization in support of the Mental Health Best Practices 2nd Edition, which was adopted by the board during its January meeting. Finally, the board expressed its appreciation for the leadership of the NCAA chief medical officer, as Dr. Brian Hainline will retire at the end of May.
8. **Review of NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence and recommendation for a revised penalty structure.** NCAA staff provided the board with an overview of the attestation process for the NCAA Policy on Campus Sexual Violence and

the current penalties for a school's failure to attest by the deadline. Per the policy, if a school is not able to attest its compliance with the six policy requirements, it will be prohibited from hosting any NCAA championship competitions for the next applicable academic year. In addition, schools that do not attest are also listed on the NCAA website following the board's annual review. The board noted concerns with the penalty prohibiting a school from hosting NCAA championship competition because it negatively impacts the student-athlete experience due to an administrative error on campus, and the penalty does not impact non-attesting schools equally as not all schools host a pre-determined NCAA championship or earn the opportunity to host a non-predetermined NCAA championship. The board reviewed recommendations for a new penalty structure that would equally impact non-attesting schools.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors approve a new penalty structure for the Policy on Campus Sexual Violence effective for attestations completed by institutions starting in the fall 2024 based on adherence to the policy requirements in the 2023-24 academic year, as follows: (a) Eliminate the penalty prohibiting non-attesting schools from hosting NCAA championship competitions; (b) If a school does not attest its compliance with the policy, the school will be fined \$5,000.00 (to be distributed to a divisional identified philanthropic organization focusing efforts on campus sexual violence prevention), and listed on the NCAA website following the Board of Governors annual review; (c) If a school submits its attestation form after the original prescribed deadline (or the revised deadline), the school will be listed on the NCAA website following the Board of Governors annual review as attesting late. If a school submits an attestation form after the deadline in future years, the penalty of a fine and listing the school on the NCAA website will be applied to the school; and (d) If a school requests an extension of the original prescribed deadline of the attestation form, NCAA staff may grant an automatic extension of 10-calendar days." **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

9. **NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee report.** Beth DeBauche, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, presented the committee's report from its April 17, videoconference.
 - a. **NCAA Tax Return 990, general overview and talking points.** The board reviewed the NCAA Form 990 Federal Tax Return, which covers tax year September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023.
 - b. **Insurance coverages overview.** The Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the portfolio of NCAA insurance coverages and premiums for fiscal year 2023-24, with the addition of the NCAA Post-Eligibility Insurance Program. It was noted that the PEI program is effective August 1, and will provide secondary coverage to all student-athletes. The annual expected cost of the program, paid by the NCAA, is \$26M. Finally, Commissioner DeBauche shared that the NCAA staff is engaging in membership outreach efforts to educate on the PEI program before August 1.

- c. **NCAA investment update.** The board received an update on NCAA investments shared with the Finance and Audit Committee from Aon Investments USA, Inc.
- d. **NCAA financial update.**
 - (1) **Long-range financial outlook.** An overview of the NCAA five-year financial outlook, including a broad overview of revenues and expenses from fiscal year 2024 through fiscal year 2029, was provided to the board. It was noted that NCAA staff is reviewing Association-wide and Division I expenses to determine which financial governance body has oversight of these items. The Finance and Audit Committee is expecting a report on this project during its next videoconference.
 - (2) **Update on funding for women's wrestling national collegiate championship.** The Finance and Audit Committee presented a recommendation to approve an Association-wide budget allocation to fund a NCAA national collegiate championship in women's wrestling. It was noted that in fall 2023, NCAA staff confirmed that 41 schools met the minimum sport sponsorship requirements in women's wrestling in the 2022-23 academic year, thereby meeting the legislative requirement to add the sport as a national collegiate championship. In February, the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics recommended that the three divisional legislative bodies sponsor legislation to add women's wrestling as a NCAA national collegiate championship and to establish a women's wrestling committee. If the legislative proposals are adopted at the 2025 NCAA Convention, the first women's wrestling national collegiate championship will occur in winter 2026.

The budget impact of funding the national collegiate championship is \$200,000 in fiscal year 2025 to prepare for the championship (e.g., staffing, establishing the committee) with the cost increasing to \$1.5 million in fiscal year 2026. Finally, it was noted that the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee supported this request during its April 15 videoconference.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors approve an Association-wide budget allocation to: (a) Fund a women's wrestling national collegiate championship and to establish a women's wrestling committee; and (b) Move oversight of the budget to Division I consistent with all other national collegiate championships, effective in fiscal year 2025 with the first championship in the 2025-26 academic year." **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

(3) **Division I budget matters.**

- a. **Women's basketball performance fund approach.** The Finance and Audit Committee discussed initial feedback on revenue distribution modeling for the development of a Division I women's basketball performance fund. It was noted that the Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee is targeting development of the fund to be paid out beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 based on performance in the 2024-25 NCAA Women's Basketball tournament. In addition, staff was directed to seek broad membership feedback on the targeted distribution amount, structure and source of funding for further consideration. It is anticipated that the Division I membership will vote on the creation of the women's basketball performance fund at the 2025 NCAA Convention.
- b. **50-percent seeding recommendation.** The Finance and Audit Committee presented a recommendation to fund the seeding of 16 teams in the FCS football championship beginning in fiscal year 2024-25. It was noted that funding this initiative will enhance the integrity of the FCS football championship bracket and will allow the most deserving teams to compete against each other rather than bracketing based on the geographical proximity of teams selected for the championship. The budget impact to fund seeding of 16 teams in the FCS championship is \$540,000 in fiscal year 2025.

It was VOTED

"That the Board of Governors approve an Association-wide budget allocation to: (a) Fund the seeding of 16 teams in the FCS football championship; and (b) Move oversight of the budget to Division I."
Approved (Unanimous voice vote)

- c. **Bracket expansion.** The Finance and Audit Committee discussed an ongoing staff analysis of the cost and impact of expanding the men's and women's basketball tournaments from 68 teams to 72 or 76 teams. It was noted that any potential revenue gains would be nominal and unit dilution for revenue distribution would be expected due to an increase in tournament participation. The committee agreed to continue monitoring this issue.

10. **Board of Governors Processes and Procedures.**

- a. **NCAA Board of Governors Executive Committee report.** President Livingstone reported on matters discussed in the Executive Committee's videoconference on April 17.

- **Board of Governors Delegation of Authority – Legal Settlement.** President Livingstone noted that the Executive Committee discussed a recommendation from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs to increase the settlement authority of the NCAA president.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve an increase to the settlement authority of the NCAA president from \$100,000 to \$1M.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

b. **Board of Governors composition and terms of office.**

- (1) **Chair election notice.** President Livingstone reported that her term as chair expires upon adjournment of the board’s August 8 videoconference, which will require the election of a new chair.
- (2) **Term expirations in the 2024 calendar year.** The board reviewed the term expirations for members whose terms expire in 2024. It was noted that the chair of the Division I Council will join the board July 1, and several other new board members will begin their terms after the August 8 videoconference.

11. **Executive session.** The board convened in executive session to discuss various administrative matters.
12. **Other business.** The board did not have any other business.
13. **Future meetings.** The board reviewed its future meeting dates through 2025.
14. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:13 p.m. Eastern time.

Board of Governors chair: Linda Livingstone, Baylor University
Staff liaisons: Terri Steeb Gronau, Governance and Policy
Stephanie Quigg, Governance and Policy

NCAA Board of Governors April 25, 2024, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Charlie Baker, NCAA president.	
Bryce Choate, Graduated Division I student-athlete.	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College.	
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas.	
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.	
Allison Feaster, Boston Celtics.	
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College.	

Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.
Madeleine McKenna, Graduated Division II student-athlete.
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University.
Isaiah Swann, Graduated Division III student-athlete.
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.
Larry Ward, Babson College.
Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 th U.S. Army Surgeon General.
Absentees:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Terri Steeb Gronau and Stephanie Quigg.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Dawn Buth, Michael Cioroianu, Amanda Conklin, Kelly Dodds, Jennifer Fraser, Dan Gavitt, Brain Hainline, Kevin Lennon, Felicia Martin, Corbin McGuire, Louise McCleary, Mario Morris, Kim Oren, John Parsons, Dave Schnase, Jared Tidemann, and Stan Wilcox.