REPORT OF THE  
NCAA OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018, MEETING  

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **October 11-12, 2017, meeting report.** The NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee approved the report as presented. Given the report’s summary of discussion about Paralympic issues, NCAA staff noted some highlights from the United States Olympic Committee’s early December 2017 Paralympic Summit.

2. **Committee charge and discussion.** The committee discussed its charge and affirmed the main tenets of the current stated purpose as included below. Further, the committee expressed an interest to find additional topics for collaboration, including student-athlete safety (i.e., SafeSport) and training opportunities. The committee discussed that sport-by-sport differences in the athlete development pipeline may call for varying levels of engagement between the NCAA and the national governing bodies.

   The purpose of the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee is to facilitate communication and understanding between the NCAA, the USOC and the national governing bodies. Through this communication the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee will assist the USOC and the national governing bodies in facilitating the best possible development of elite athletes within the context of the NCAA’s commitment to education and a broad-based development of all student-athletes. The Olympic Sports Liaison Committee will provide an avenue of communication and access for the USOC and national governing bodies into the NCAA process and, where appropriate, make recommendations to the NCAA membership. Finally, the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee will strive to provide education to the USOC, national governing bodies and student-athletes regarding NCAA rules and regulations as they apply to world-class athletes.

3. **NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee review of low-sponsorship sports and championships.** NCAA staff summarized the work to date by project consultant TSE Consulting to examine low-sponsored sports (less than 50 programs) and identify opportunities for enhancing the student-athlete experience and the delivery of the respective championships. As the sports identified are significant in the Olympic program, the committee continued to express interest in following the progress and outcomes of the study (consultant recommendations expected in January 2019).

4. **College basketball reform update and discussion.** NCAA staff provided a summary of actions taken by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors in response to recommendations generated by the Commission on College Basketball.
5. **Legislative update.** NCAA staff provided an update on recently adopted legislation and bylaw interpretations. Due to the shift in the Division I legislative timeline, a teleconference will be scheduled for November to review proposals in the current cycle relevant to the committee’s work. In addition, the committee discussed the ways by which a sport without a substantial multi-sport conference base (e.g., fencing, field hockey, ice hockey) could propose new legislation, including through the committee itself.

6. **Updates from the NCAA Committee on Women’s Athletics and NCAA Emerging Sports for Women Program.** NCAA staff highlighted key work from the Committee on Women’s Athletics. The committee expressed continued interest to remain informed about the Emerging Sports for Women program and help national governing bodies, as needed, explore the program.

7. **Olympic Sports Liaison Committee outreach with national governing bodies.** The committee discussed the purpose and progress for individual committee member engagement with national governing bodies consistent with the mutual interests of the USOC and the NCAA. NCAA staff continues to work with USOC representatives to expand the list of participating national governing bodies and will finalize assignments and circulate a contact sheet to committee members during an upcoming teleconference.

8. **Meeting with representatives of national governing bodies.** The committee met with representatives from the USOC and several national governing bodies. USOC and NCAA staff provided updates to the group on the USOC Collegiate Advisory Council, as well as various NCAA topics, including legislation, the review of low-sponsorship sports and championships, and college basketball reform. For future engagement opportunities, committee members prioritized identifying specific points of interaction by sport or national governing body (for example, Emerging Sports for Women Program education or efforts to expand sponsorship for low-sponsored sports).

9. **Other business.** In other business, the committee agreed to schedule a November teleconference to discuss Division I legislative issues and review the national governing bodies outreach assignments.

*Committee Chair:* James Siedliski, American Athletic Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Alex Smith, Academic and Membership Affairs  
              Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances
# NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee
## September 20, 2018, Meeting

### Attendees:
- Jessica Chapin, American International College.
- Ross Cobb, University of Arizona.
- Mikayla Costello, Willamette University, NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (alternate).
- Nick Ely, Notre Dame College (Ohio).
- Sarah Fraser, Quinnipiac University.
- Bruce Gillman, Vassar College.
- Chris May, Saint Louis University.
- Craig McPhail, Lees-McRae College.
- Chase Pagani, Colgate University.
- Korinth Patterson, Mid-American Conference.
- Kate Roy, North Atlantic Conference, NCAA Division III management Council (alternate).
- James Siedliski, American Athletic Conference.
- Eric Zillmer, Drexel University.

### Absentees:
- Zach Cook, College at Brockport, State University of New York.
- Joe Walsh, Great Northeast Athletic Conference.

### Guests in Attendance:
Representatives from national governing bodies: USA Archery; USA Basketball; USA Fencing; USA Field Hockey; USA Gymnastics; USA Hockey; USA Rowing; USA Softball; USA Swimming; USA Triathlon; USA Volleyball; USA Water Polo; USA Wrestling.
- Sarah Wilhelmi, U.S. Olympic Committee.

### NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
- Alex Smith and Liz Turner Suscha.

### Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
None.