

REPORT OF THE NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS JUNE 9-10, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
 - Playing rules Medical re-entry considerations.
 - (a) Recommendation. That the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel, or other appropriate committees, amend sport playing rules that limit substitutions and/or reentry to allow exceptions for any student-athlete seeking timely medical evaluation and/or treatment of any condition with the potential to cause catastrophic injury or illness (including, but not limited to diabetes, sickle cell trait, asthma), as determined by the primary athletics health care provider.
 - (b) <u>Effective date</u>. Immediate, following the next regular rules change opportunity for each impacted sport.
 - (c) Rationale. In sports with playing rules that limit substitutions and/or reentry during competition, student-athletes may be disincentivized from seeking medical evaluation or treatment if doing so could render them ineligible to return to competition. Student-athletes should be able to seek care during competition for a condition with the potential to cause catastrophic injury or illness without risk that they will be ineligible for the remainder of the competition for doing so. Consistent with independent medical care legislation, no rule should impede the unchallengeable autonomous authority of primary athletics health care providers to determine medical management and return-to-play decisions.
 - (d) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (e) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. Ensures that, during competition, student-athletes have a pathway to seek medical care and evaluation for potentially catastrophic injuries and illnesses.

Report of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Meeting Report June 9-10, 2025 Page No. 2

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Approval of February 17-18, 2025, videoconference report.** The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports approved the report of its February 2025 videoconference.
- 2. **NCAA Chief Medical Officer update.** The CMO provided an overview of the Sport Science Institute's recent activities.
 - 2050 Vision and Women's Sports. CSMAS was provided an update about 2050 Vision, an initiative by the Indiana Sports Corp to make Indiana the global epicenter of sports by 2050. Specifically, one of 2050 Vision's goals is to be the women's sports capital of the world. It was noted that there may be collaboration opportunities with CSMAS where goals align.
- 3. **Litigation update.** CSMAS received a briefing about ongoing litigation involving the NCAA that is relevant to its work.
- 4. Legislative update.
 - a. **NCAA sports betting**. CSMAS received an update on ongoing divisional discussions related to deregulating the NCAA's prohibition on professional sports betting. CSMAS also discussed considerations regarding safe harbor, limited immunity, or reduced penalty concepts for student-athletes who engage in sports betting but seek help for problem gambling.
 - b. **Gambling and sports betting education**. In February, CSMAS approved the content for a <u>Harm Reduction and Sports Betting resource</u>, which was released to the membership in early June. Additionally, an SSI Spotlight on Gambling and Sports Betting is scheduled for Monday, June 23.
- 5. **Update from the Office of Inclusion.** Staff from the Office of Inclusion provided an overview of its ongoing work to support the membership.
- 6. **Governance updates.** CSMAS received a governance update regarding the NCAA Board of Governors and each division. During this update, CSMAS discussed the recent approval of the House Settlement.

Report of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Meeting Report June 9-10, 2025 Page No. 3

7. NCAA Injury Surveillance Program.

- a. NCAA Injury Surveillance Program modernization. CSMAS approved the proposed methodological updates and sub-study concept for the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program, as recommended by its Research Subcommittee. It was noted that the proposed methodological updates add no additional burden to schools, improve precision in projecting and calculating injury rates, align with current best practices in injury surveillance methodology and allow for the introduction of substudies that will aim to address membership interests/gaps in knowledge.
- b. **Seasonal ISP report**. CSMAS received a report on the most recent seasonal sport injury reports.

8. Administrative Subcommittee.

- a. **Subcommittee activity**. CSMAS received the reports of its Administrative Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2025.
 - CSMAS approved updating an academic reference for cardiac considerations following viral infection, as recommended by AdCom. Specifically, new guidance from the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology has made the *Cardiac Considerations for College Student-Athletes during the COVID-19 Pandemic* algorithm outdated. Therefore, CSMAS approved replacing current guidance with the most current information from the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology as published in *Clinical Considerations for Competitive Sports Participation for Athletes with Cardiovascular Abnormalities*.
- b. **Athletic Training Workforce Issues Stakeholder meeting.** CSMAS reviewed the agenda for an Athletic Training Workforce Stakeholder meeting, which will convene in July 2025. This meeting will be a continuation of a <u>similar meeting held in 2023</u>, and provide key stakeholders (e.g., Board of Certification for Athletic Trainers, Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education, National Athletic Trainers' Association and College Athletic Trainers' Society) an opportunity to discuss current topics and trends impacting the athletic training workforce.
- c. **Sickle cell testing.** CSMAS received an update on work to finalize an agreement with Quest Diagnostics to offer reduced-cost sickle cell solubility testing to the membership. It is expected that the partnership will be finalized and shared with the membership this summer. In addition, CSMAS referred the development of additional guidance regarding sickle cell solubility testing to AdCom. Specifically, the membership noted several questions following the release of the Division II May 23, 2025, Official Interpretation.

d. Advisory group structure. CSMAS discussed a preliminary concept to update its advisory group structure. Its current structure was approved in June 2023 to meet the Association's constitutional responsibility to identify and promulgate guidance, rules and policies based on consensus of the medical, scientific, sports medicine and sport governing communities for student-athlete mental and physical health, safety and performance. The proposed updates would eliminate separate, distinct advisory groups (other than the Concussion Safety Advisory Group) and replace them with one group or a menu of subject matter experts maintained by CSMAS that could be called on based on topical need.

9. Research Subcommittee.

- a. **Subcommittee activity review**. CSMAS received the reports of its Research Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2025.
- b. **Update on NCAA Injury Surveillance Program Data Requests process.** CSMAS received an informational update on the first cycle of the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program Data Requests pilot. Specifically, the Research Subcommittee reviewed and approved the first "full application" for data, a milestone in reinstating the Data Requests process.
- c. Catastrophic Sport Injury Reporting.
 - (1) Catastrophic Sport Injury Reporting annual activity report. CSMAS received the 2023-24 Catastrophic Sport Injury annual activity report.
 - (2) **Reportable events variables**. CSMAS approved the inclusion of variables for violence-related events, unnatural deaths and overdoses as reportable events in the NCAA Catastrophic Sport Injury Reporting Portal, as recommended by the Research Subcommittee.
 - (3) Catastrophic sport injury summary report direction. CSMAS directed, as recommended by the Research Subcommittee, the National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research to pursue the production of two public-facing reports regarding NCAA catastrophic sport injuries:
 - (a) A summary of de-identified data; and
 - (b) A publication on the methodology used to collect this data. The creation of these reports will be overseen by the Research Subcommittee.

Finally, CSMAS emphasized the importance of protecting student-athlete privacy in the development of these reports.

- 10. **Drug Free Sport International report.** CSMAS received a briefing on recent activity and results from the NCAA drug-testing program.
 - Caffeine. CSMAS noted that energy drinks are one of the top five supplement inquiries submitted to Drug Free Sport AXIS. Additionally, during 2024-25 there have been positive drug tests for caffeine, which is an NCAA banned substance if a urinary concentration is equal to or greater than 15mcg/ml. As such, CSMAS supported collaborating with ASPDA and SHPN to update the fact sheet on caffeine.

11. Drug-Testing Subcommittee.

- a. **Subcommittee activity review.** CSMAS received the reports of its Drug-Testing Subcommittee videoconferences since February 2025.
- b. **Drug-testing manual and education review**. CSMAS was notified that the Drug-Testing Subcommittee updated and approved the 2025-26 Drug-Testing Manual and accompanying educational documents. The updated materials will be shared via memo to the membership in July 2025.
- c. **Medical exceptions and RSRO**. CSMAS received an overview of the NCAA drugtesting medical exception request process, which was moved to the NCAA Requests/Self-Reports Online system in January 2025.

12. Prevention and Performance Subcommittee.

- a. **Subcommittee activity review**. CSMAS received the reports of its Prevention and Performance Subcommittee activity since February 2025.
- b. **Follow-up guidance on NCAA Divisions I and II adopted legislation**. CSMAS noted that the Prevention and Performance Subcommittee completed its charge to develop feedback for the membership to consider as it implements two proposals that were recently adopted. Specifically, CSMAS agreed to share guidance with the membership on NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-62 (women's soccer first date of competition and transition period) and Division II Proposal No. 2025-2 (timing of medical examinations). (See Attachment A.)

Report of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Meeting Report June 9-10, 2025 Page No. 6

13. Concussion.

- a. **General update**. CSMAS received an update on the concussion-related work for the 2025-26 academic year.
- b. **2025** NCAA-DoD Grand Alliance Concussion Conference debrief. CSMAS received a recap of the 7th Annual NCAA-DoD Concussion Conference in April, which included the highest attendance to date with more than 1,000 virtual attendees.
- c. **Concussion in Sport Group meeting debrief.** CSMAS received an update about the Concussion in Sport Group meeting, which was held this spring in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and focused on clinical advances and research related to identification, prevention, evaluation and management of sport-related concussion.
- 14. NCAA Summit on Performance Technologies in Collegiate Athletics. CSMAS approved the report from the NCAA Summit on Performance Technologies in Collegiate Athletics (Attachment B), which was held in May 2025. The summit focused on the responsible use of performance technologies, including assessing and choosing technology, testimonials from student-athletes, validation of technology, involvement of the sports medicine team and current use trends. It was noted that attendees will participate in a consensus-building process to develop non-binding membership considerations for the responsible use of performance technologies. CSMAS agreed to review initial outcomes of the consensus-building process at its September meeting.
- 15. **NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook update.** CSMAS noted the completion of the recently updated NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook, 26th edition. The Sports Medicine Handbook provides considerations to schools as they meet their constitutional obligation to protect, support and enhance the mental and physical health, safety and performance of student-athletes. The 26th edition includes a refreshed, modern approach that provides considerations for developing policies and procedures for the administration of athletics health care, including background and contextual information on existing guidance and direction to available resources.

16. Education update.

a. **Division III health and safety grant and Mental Health First Aid.** CSMAS was provided an update on Division III's health and safety grant as well as its funding of Mental Health First Aid training for Division III coaches, athletic trainers and other staff.

- b. **Educational programming initiatives.** CSMAS received an update about upcoming educational initiatives, including possible partnerships to provide additional resources and training on mental health.
- c. **Cannabinoid education plan.** CSMAS noted the completion of the cannabinoid education plan it approved in February 2024. The plan included the development of webinars, fact sheets, e-learning modules and presentations aimed at educating the membership about outcomes from the 2022 Summit on Cannabis in Collegiate Athletics, including informing schools about the current state of science, promoting harm-reduction strategies and socializing multi-modal strategies for screening.
- d. **SSI Spotlight.** CSMAS received a year-to-date review of the SSI Spotlight series. From November 2024 through May 2025, six episodes aired, covering: CSMAS, Cannabinoids, Injury Surveillance, NCAA Drug Testing, Athletic Training Workforce, Mental Health. In total, the SSI Spotlight series had approximately 3,500 attendees spanning 775 unique schools or roughly 70% of the membership. An episode on sports betting is scheduled for June 25, 2025, before programming pauses for the remainder of the summer.
- e. **NCAA Regional Rules.** CSMAS received an update about health, safety and performance topics covered at the NCAA Regional Rules Seminar, which was held in May 2025.
- f. **2026 NCAA Convention.** CSMAS provided feedback on possible health, safety and performance topics to be considered at the 2026 NCAA Convention.
- 17. **Vice-chair election.** CSMAS elected Amanda Phillips, head team physician at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette as vice chair for the 2025-26 academic year. Sarah Dowd, Director of Student-Athlete Wellness, Clinical Counselor and Senior Woman Administrator at the Michigan Technological University will rise to the chair position for the 2025-26 academic year.
- 18. **Future meeting schedule.** CSMAS reviewed its future meeting dates.
- 19. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:58 a.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, June 10.

Committee Chair: Nadine Mastroleo, Binghamton University
Staff Liaisons: LaGwyn Durden, NCAA Sport Science Institute

Leilani Hubbard, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs

Anne Rohlman, NCAA Sport Science Institute

Page No. 8

NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports June 9-10, 2025, Meeting

Attendees:

Matt Barany, University of Richmond.

Rhonda Beemer, Northwest Missouri State University.

Leah Carey, Brown University.

Timothy Coffey, Longwood University.

Lee Dorpfeld, University of South Florida.

Sarah Dowd, Michigan Technological University.

Jack Entriken, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.

Kenneth Ferguson, University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Connor Fournier, Minnesota State University, Mankato, substitute for Adoriyan Daniels.

Deanna Hand, Houghton University.

Alana Hirahara, California State University, Sacramento.

Josey Johnson, Otterbein University.

Ryan Kelly, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University.

Nadine Mastroleo, Binghamton University.

Jennifer McMillan, Oregon State University.

Amanda Phillips, University of Louisiana at Lafavette.

Jaime Potter, University of California, Irvine.

Sarah Ramey, University of Texas Permian Basin.

Marie Schaefer, Cleveland State University.

Leah Thomas, Georgia Institute of Technology.

Rich Wanninger, Patriot League.

Absentees:

Brad Anawalt, University of Washington.

Bob Colgate, National Federation of State High School Association.

Adoriyan Daniels, University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Guests in Attendance:

Anna Bottoms, Kody Campbell, Avinash Chandran, Michelle Dorsey and Kristen Kucera.

NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:

LaGwyn Durden, Leilani Hubbard and Anne Rohlman.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Laura Arnett, Geoff Bentzel, Deena Casiero, Amanda Dickey, Alicia Fine, Greg Johnson, Ann Martin, Louise McCleary, Mallory Mickus, Leilyn Miles, Gretchen Miron, Nicki Pieart, Greg Pottorff, Alex Purcell, Stephanie Quigg, Bill Regan, Michelle Robison, Crystal Rogers, Carey Wheelhouse and Leeland Zeller.

Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Feedback on NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-62 and NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-2

June 2025

- 1. NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-62: Women's soccer -- First Date of Competition and Transition Period. The Prevention and Performance Subcommittee noted that Division I schools should be aware of the following as they implement changes to the women's soccer playing and practice season:
 - a. <u>Heat injury and illness</u>. The new legislation may increase required athletic activities when temperature and/or heat index could put student-athletes at greater risk for heat-related illness and injury.

Division I schools are reminded of available guidance on the prevention of heat injury and illness and emergency action plans in the soon to be updated NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook and <u>Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes</u> document. Specially, Recommendation 3 of the Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death document notes the disproportionate number of catastrophic injuries and deaths that occur during transition months (e.g., June) and emphasizes the need for a seven-to-10-day transition period and proper heat acclimatization.

Starting with the 2024-25 academic year, Division I schools must attest to being in compliance with consensus-based guidance, including the Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death document. Finally, schools are <u>legislatively required to report all catastrophic injuries</u> sustained by student-athletes.

- b. <u>Athletic training workforce issues</u>. The new legislation requires earlier reporting dates and a longer championship season will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden placed on athletic trainers.
 - Division I schools should be aware of <u>guidance regarding current athletic trainer</u> <u>workforce issues</u> and how increasing AT workload demands are contributing to ATs leaving the profession and/or collegiate setting.
- c. <u>Mental health</u>. The new legislation extends the length of the season, which may have adverse effects on student-athlete mental health. Specifically, the NCAA Women's Soccer Championship would occur during many schools' final examination period.

Division I schools should consider how the <u>NCAA Mental Health Best Practices</u>, which provide recommendations for team, athletics, campus and community-based approaches to supporting, promoting and managing student-athlete mental health concerns, may apply to longer athletic seasons.

Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Feedback on NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2024-62 and NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-2

Page No. 2

Notably, schools are legislatively required to make mental health services and resources available to their student-athletes consistent with the Mental Health Best Practices.

- 2. **NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-2 -- Timing of medical examination.** The Prevention and Performance Subcommittee noted that Division II schools should be aware of the following as they consider using the increased flexibility this legislation allows:
 - a. <u>Medical best practice</u>. When considering whether to use the flexibility permitted by this proposal, schools should be aware that, ideally, a medical examination should be performed within six weeks prior to the start of any physical activity. This, and additional guidance for the timing, setting and structure of mandatory medical examinations can be found in the soon to be updated NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook.
 - Importantly, schools are empowered to implement institutional policies and procedures for the timing of mandatory medical examinations within the limits of NCAA legislation and should work with campus legal and risk management to consider existing NCAA guidance and medical best practice when making decisions.
 - b. <u>Catastrophic injury and death</u>. One purpose of the mandatory medical examination is to identify conditions that may put the student-athlete at unreasonable risk for catastrophic injury or death. Schools should be aware of the <u>Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes</u> document (including its discussion of emergency action plans), as well as <u>guidance for cardiac care</u>, which includes considerations for mandatory medical examinations. Further, schools should refer to the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook for additional guidance on creating policies and procedures to prevent catastrophic injury and death. for additional guidance on creating policies and procedures to prevent catastrophic injury and death.

Finally, schools are <u>legislatively required to report all catastrophic injuries</u> sustained by student-athletes.