2021-22
Division II Priorities

Constitution Review
The NCAA Board of Governors established a Constitution Committee to propose changes to the NCAA Constitution to reimagine aspects of college sports so the Association can more effectively meet the needs of current and future college athletes. The division will:

- Work with the members of the Constitution Committee to provide feedback and input as the committee does its work.
- Participate in a Special Convention Nov. 15 and participate in the Association-wide business session in January in which all three divisions will gather to vote on the proposals sponsored by the Board of Governors.
- Following the January Convention, work to implement next steps (e.g., changes in legislation, policy, etc.).

SAAC Super Region Convention
The Division II SAAC will host two Super Region Conventions: Nov. 19-21, 2021, in Chicago for institutions in the Central and Midwest regions, and in California April 8-10, 2022, for institutions in the South Central and West regions. The program continues connecting student-athletes and administrators, strengthening the student-athlete voice and enhancing the SAAC network at all levels.

Game Day Experience
As fans return to Division II contests, they will benefit from the Make Game Day Yours initiative created in partnership with the Disney Institute. The Disney Institute will facilitate regional training sessions in 2022 and 2023 to help institutional administrators promote a more positive game environment and provide excellent customer service to their fans.

Total Package Student-Athlete
The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will continue empowering student-athletes through the “Total Package Student-Athlete” initiative in the following areas:

- Mental Health. Break the stigma and promote mental well-being.
- Diversity and Inclusion. Enhance inclusive practices and programs at the conference and campus levels that promote inclusion to better the student-athlete experience.
- Professional Development. Further prepare student-athletes to experience success and make a difference in their lives after athletics.
2021-22 Division II Priorities cont.

Growth Opportunities
The division will engage administrators, coaches and student-athletes in the following events:

- Partnering with the Gordie Center for Substance Abuse Prevention to host the fourth Division II-specific APPLE Training Institute Sept. 17-19, 2021, in Orlando, Fla., and provide funding for administrator and student-athlete teams from up to 40 Division II colleges and universities to attend.
- Hosting two concurrent Division II Identity Workshops June 7-9, 2022 – the fifth coaches workshop and the first for athletic trainers – covering a range of topics that directly affect these positions on Division II campuses. Attendees will learn more about the NCAA from several departments, including championships, academic and membership affairs, and governance, and be apprised of impactful professional and personal development opportunities to benefit their careers.

Championship Experience
The Championships Committee’s top priority continues to be providing full championship access and memorable experiences for 2021-22, taking into consideration what was learned from the championships experience through COVID-19 (i.e., predetermined sites, rankings, banquets).

NIL Legislation
Per the charge from the NCAA Board of Governors, Division II in summer 2021 adopted an interim policy suspending NCAA name, image and likeness rules for all incoming and current student-athletes in all sports. The policy provides guidance to college athletes, recruits, their families and member schools, and will be in effect until federal legislation or new NCAA rules are adopted. While opening name, image and likeness opportunities to student-athletes, the policy preserves the commitment to avoid pay-for-play and improper inducements tied to choosing to attend a particular school. Those rules remain in effect.

Professional Development for Compliance Administrators
During the 2021-22 academic year, the division is partnering with the National Association of Athletics Compliance (NAAC) to provide professional development programming for Division II institutional and conference compliance administrators, allowing participants to discuss and exchange ideas about topics that influence their goals and objectives. Select individuals will participate in fall and winter videoconferences before meeting in conjunction with the 2022 NAAC Convention. Topics include: (1) regulatory issues; (2) governance issues, strategic initiatives and committee service; and (3) professional and personal development.

Telling Our Story
As the membership continues to embrace the Make It Yours brand and Life in the Balance philosophy, Division II will enhance its perception and understanding among key external audiences, in part through a new and improved ncaa.org that provides those not familiar with Division II a look at our unique characteristics and programs that enhance the student-athlete experience. The website also offers the membership a more streamlined way to access information from the national office.