

2024-25 Division II Priorities

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Regionalization Review. The Division II Championships Committee will continue to discuss the division's regionalization philosophy and opportunities to revise bracketing approaches to enhance the championships experience for participating student-athletes. Once concepts are further developed, full membership feedback will be sought.

Winter 2025 Festival. The first winter Division II National Championships Festival in eight years will take place March 11-15 in Indianapolis, featuring men's and women's indoor track and field, men's and women's swimming and diving, and men's wrestling.

Championship Site Selection. The Championships Committee and relevant sport committees will review bids and announce sites for 2026-28 championships in October 2024.

Women's Wrestling. The membership will vote in January at the 2025 NCAA Convention on whether to add women's wrestling as a National Collegiate Championship. It would become the 91st NCAA championship.



STRATEGIC PLAN AND THINK TANK

Division II will continue developing its next operating plan. The division will host a think tank Sept. 16-17 during which a representative group of Division II leaders will discuss the challenges facing intercollegiate athletics and begin developing strategies and solutions.

Based on input from the governance structure regarding the draft operating plan goals and objectives and feedback from the think tank, the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee will develop the next membership census, which will be distributed in January. Census results and a membership review will inform the operating plan, which will be launched in January 2026.



BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Governance committees will discuss potential changes to the Division II long-range budget, potential uses of additional revenue from the new media rights agreement with ESPN, and how the division manages its reserves.

SPORTS WAGERING LEGISLATION AND WAGERING AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS SURVEY

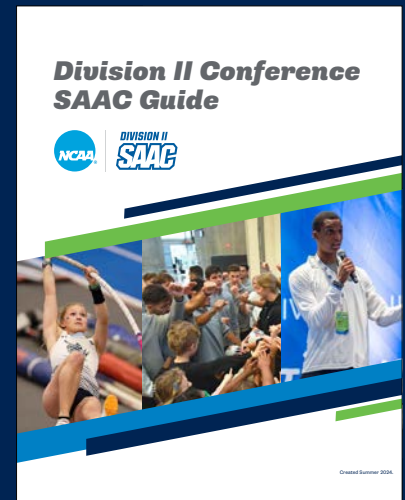
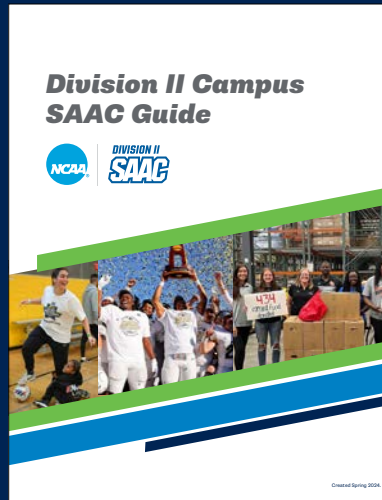
Given the evolving landscape surrounding sports wagering, the division will conduct a review of its sports wagering legislation. Throughout the summer/fall, the review will focus on data from the wagering and social environments survey, as well as seeking feedback from various membership groups regarding potential legislative changes. Assuming the adoption of a proposal(s), Division II will shift its attention to helping the membership (including student-athletes) understand the new legislation.



SAAC PRIORITIES

The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has created new resources for the membership, including campus and conference SAAC best practice guides and a civic engagement day resource. These resources are part of SAAC's continued focus on the three E's – empower student-athletes with resources, empathize with their concerns, and enhance their voice and experience.

SAAC will still focus on congressional and civic engagement; Life After the Game; diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging; and mental health. Leading up to Election Day in November, SAAC will share civic engagement resources to help student-athletes vote. The committee will also create internal documents to aid committee members when they transition into a leadership position on the national SAAC.



MARKETING AND BRANDING

Division II has conducted research among prospective student-athletes and those who influence where they choose to attend college. The research summarized their needs and desires when selecting a school and their perception of Division II. The data gathered through this research will help determine a media activation plan that will launch in 2025.

With the start of the NCAA's new eight-year media rights agreement for NCAA Championships in 2024-25, Division II will receive increased brand exposure on ESPN platforms. The new agreement includes broadcasting the division's football, women's volleyball and women's basketball semifinals and championship games and the men's basketball semifinals on an ESPN platform. The men's basketball championship game will remain on CBS as part of the NCAA's multimedia rights agreement with CBS and TNT Sports.

CONTINUED REVIEW OF LEGISLATION

The Division II Legislation Committee will continue reviewing legislation and bylaws delegated to it from the Division II Implementation Committee Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee, including:

- Division II Bylaw 14 (eligibility).
- Division II Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes).
- Division II Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons).

The committee also will begin reviewing Bylaw 15 (financial aid) during the 2024-25 academic year.



DIVISION II

MAKE IT *YOURS*

PARTNERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP

Women Leaders in Sports

September and October

Women Leaders in Sports and Division II will partner to provide educational and networking opportunities for female administrators in Division II.

FAR Fellows Institute

September

The division will host its 14th Faculty Athletics Representative Fellows Institute Sept. 27-29. The institute provides educational programming for faculty athletics representatives to help them effectively perform their roles and support student-athletes.

SAAC Super Region Convention

April

The Division II SAAC will conduct its seventh super region convention April 25-27 in Indianapolis for the Central and Midwest Regions (Great American Conference, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Great Midwest Athletic Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference). Participants will engage in several important topics, including the student-athlete voice, mental health, preparation for life after athletics and more.

Professional Development Workshop for Athletic Trainers

June

Athletic trainers from each of the Division II conferences and independent institutions will be invited to participate in three days of professional development. This will be the fourth and final year athletic trainers will be the focus of this workshop.

Minority Opportunities Athletic Association Governance Academy

June

MOAA and Division II have partnered since 2009 to provide educational and networking opportunities for minority administrators in Division II.

Division II Professional Development Workshop for Compliance Administrators

June

The division is partnering with the National Association for Athletics Compliance to provide programming for Division II compliance administrators. Topics include regulatory issues, governance issues, strategic initiatives and committee service, and professional and personal development.

Mentor Program

2024-25

The NCAA and the Division II Athletics Directors Association have partnered to create a women and minorities mentoring program that provides a unique opportunity for women and minorities interested in a career as a Division II director of athletics. This experience partners each successful candidate with a current Division II director of athletics for enhancing career development. Mentors provide yearlong guidance and role modeling that encourages a commitment to a long-range career goal of serving as a Division II director of athletics.

New AD Orientation

2024-25

The division is partnering again with the D2 ADA to provide programming for new directors of athletics in Division II. The participants will be invited to join other active Division II athletics directors and national office staff for an orientation session to discuss topics including championships, identity initiatives and financial information. The program includes the opportunity for orientation at the NCAA Convention and National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Convention.



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