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Division III February Webinar

2023 NCAA Convention Recap

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Agenda

- Council and convention updates.
 - Philosophy Statement review.
 - Championships updates.
 - Financial and Risk Management Working Group.
 - 2023 Convention voting.
 - Federated playing rules.
 - Noncontroversial legislation.



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Agenda

- Association-wide updates.
 - Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action.
 - Board of Governors Transgender Policy.
 - Sport Science Institute.
- Q&A.



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Philosophy Statement Review

- Presidents Council tasked Strategic Planning and Finance Committee (SPFC) to review the division's philosophy statement. (Aug. 2022)
- SPFC created a working group. The working group has met monthly and issued a membership survey in November 2022 that focused on the following broad areas as part of a proposed philosophy statement:
 - Focus on academic experience, support of physical and mental safety and a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.
 - The student-athlete collegiate and athletics experiences.
 - Division III responsibility and oversight.





Philosophy Statement Review

- The membership survey feedback indicated support for a [draft proposed philosophy statement](#).
- During the 2023 Issues Forum, delegate discussed the following areas that were less supported in the survey results:
 - “focus on intercollegiate athletics as **primarily an undergraduate experience.**”
 - “Encourage participation by providing a **broad-based** athletics program.”
 - “The athletics program should support the institution's educational mission . . . through the same general procedures as other departments of the institution.”
- The working group will forward recommendations to the councils by summer.





Championships Updates

- The Championships Committee will be discussing over its next several meetings how to enhance the Division III student-athlete championship experience. These discussions include:
 - Evaluation of selection criteria and bracketing in relation to access ratios and AQs.
 - Permitting more flights to provide sport committees with flexibility to separate higher regionally ranked teams.
 - Increasing funding to cover more expenses for participating institutions.
- The committee also is examining ways to improve the preparation of site representatives and hosts.



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Financial and Risk Management Working Group

- Presidents Council approved the creation of a Financial and Risk Management Working Group.
- Composition and Reporting: Members of the Division III Administrative Committee, representatives from the membership and other invited experts will report to the Presidents Council and work with Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.
- Purpose: Review landscape of intercollegiate athletics, the division's financial standing and risks, threats and opportunities that confront the division.



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2023 NCAA Convention Legislation

Proposal Number	Proposal	Result	Vote
2023-3	Mental Health Hardship Waiver	Adopted	459-8-2
2023-4	SACC vote @ Business Session	Adopted	461-7-1
2023-5	Committee Composition	Adopted	458-11-2
2023-7	Council Composition	Adopted	354-116-4
2023-9	Conference Membership Requirement	Adopted	307-156-9



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2023 NCAA Convention Legislation

Proposal Number	Proposal	Result	Vote
2023-11	Eliminate weeks - Playing Season	Adopted	332-134-6
2023-12	Acclimatization	Defeated	141-318-14
2023-13	Stunt – Emerging Sport	Referred	409-30-25
2023-14	Recruiting – Social Media	Adopted	451-18-1
2023-15	Eliminate ISSG and CSSG	Adopted	468-4-0



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Federated Playing Rules

- Management Council created an advisory group to support the ongoing work to develop a federated process for approving playing rules.
- The group consists of one athletics director, a commissioner, a Division III member of PROP, and one member from the following: Championship Committee, Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and Management Council.
- Anticipate PROP to recommend each division eliminate the legislative requirement that all playing rules be the same for each division.
- The councils will receive an update of the group's work in April.



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BOG Congressional Engagement

- NCAA, including Division III institutions and conferences, face significant challenges:
 - Lawsuits and state laws wanting to treat student-athletes as employees.
 - Patchwork of state laws. (e.g., NIL)
- The goal is to proactively shape possible future federal legislation.
 - Federal laws that govern college sports on a national level (e.g., NIL, revenue sharing).
 - Codify student-athletes' non-employee status.
 - Provide a legal safe harbor protection.
- Next steps include stakeholder education and engagement.



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Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Policy

- Board of Governors approved a recommendation to extend phase two of the [NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy](#) through the 2023-24 academic year.
- Phase three will begin in the 2024-25 academic year.
- Currently 18 states have signed bills banning transgender student-athlete participation and another 30 have introduced legislation.



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Sport Science Institute

- NCAA Board of Governors approved revised strategic priorities for student-athlete mental and physical health, sport-related illness and injury, training and performance and education and policy to better align with NCAA Constitution.
- Cannabis Summit. CSMAS hosted a summit on cannabis in collegiate athletics on December 7-8.
- Wearable technology. CSMAS is examining the current use of this technology on member campuses and how the information is shared and used on a campus.



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Questions?



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