



**NCAA Survey of Senior Compliance
Administrators on Sports Wagering Issues**

September 2023



RESEARCH

2023 Survey of Senior Compliance Administrators

Methods

- Survey opened 7/18/23 and closed 8/1/23.
- Link sent to the person at each NCAA school listed as senior compliance administrator in the NCAA membership database. Asked for just one response per school.
- Reminder email sent midway through the survey period and again a few days before the deadline.
- Median time to complete the survey was less than 5 minutes.
- Survey accessed by 546 compliance administrators, with usable data for 500.
- Data collected from a September 2019 survey of the same population are shown for comparison when available.

2023 Survey of Senior Compliance Administrators

Survey Response by NCAA Division

Division	DI subdivision	N	Division / subdivision response %
Division I	(Total)	171	49%
	<i>Autonomy (AG5)</i>	42	65%
	<i>Other FBS</i>	33	51%
	<i>FCS</i>	54	45%
	<i>DI, no football</i>	42	43%
Division II		134	45%
Division III		195	45%
Total		500	46%



“Is sports wagering currently legal in the state where your college is located?”

	2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Yes	60%	64%	45%	72%
No	38%	34%	43%	19%
I don't know	2%	2%	12%	8%

“Has your athletics department dealt with a sports wagering and/or problem gambling issue within the past year?”

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Yes	3%	4%	4%	1%	27%	13%	3%	3%
No	97%	93%	90%	94%	68%	85%	95%	94%
I don't know	0%	3%	6%	5%	5%	2%	2%	3%

“During the past year, did you become aware of any student-athletes on your campus who were harassed (online or in person) by someone with gambling interests?”

	2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Yes	25%	10%	0%	0%
No	75%	90%	100%	100%

Note:

- Question on harassment was only included in the 2023 survey.

Who on staff has primary responsibility for managing and administering sports wagering education resources?

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Compliance staff	100%	97%	98%	78%	93%	97%	98%	90%
Director of athletics	0%	2%	2%	18%	0%	0%	1%	10%
Other	0%	1%	0%	4%	7%	3%	1%	< 1%

Note:

- Those who endorsed “other” mentioned a range of responsible personnel including general counsel, SWA, deputy athletics director or other athletics administrators.

“To whom does your school provide sports wagering or gambling-related education?” (Select all that apply)

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Athletics administrators	100%	98%	81%	74%	100%	95%	75%	66%
Coaches	97%	97%	84%	74%	100%	96%	81%	74%
Athletics health care providers	97%	81%	49%	33%	93%	77%	49%	39%
Student-athletes	97%	99%	87%	81%	100%	97%	86%	78%
Others	64%	31%	9%	5%	33%	26%	8%	4%
Don't provide education	3%	1%	5%	12%	0%	1%	7%	14%

Note:

- In both 2019 and 2023 (across division), “others” frequently referenced FARs, faculty involved with athletics, university administrators, all athletics employees, student workers, tutors, academic advisors, boosters, board members and team managers.

“To whom does your school provide sports wagering or gambling-related education?”

Split by whether Sports Wagering Legal in State (2023)

	2023 – Legal in State				2023 – Not Legal in State			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Athletics administrators	100%	95%	75%	65%	100%	97%	81%	71%
Coaches	100%	97%	83%	73%	100%	95%	82%	76%
Athletics health care providers	96%	82%	48%	38%	88%	67%	51%	42%
Student-athletes	100%	99%	88%	75%	100%	93%	88%	84%
Others	40%	29%	8%	4%	25%	19%	9%	3%
Don't provide education	0%	0%	3%	16%	0%	2%	7%	13%

How often is wagering/gambling education provided?

(2023)

- Among those schools that provide wagering-related education, there is substantial variation across NCAA division in the frequency of covering the topic:
 - ▶ 85% of DI, 50% of DII and 32% of DIII schools that discuss the topic with student-athletes do it more than once/year.
 - ▶ About 75% of DI, 40% of DII and 25% of DIII schools that provide education say they present it more than once/year to their coaches and administrators.
 - ▶ Comments from compliance directors indicate that many schools, especially those in DI, send student-athletes and athletics department personnel reminder texts or emails prior to big sporting events (e.g., March Madness, Super Bowl, football bowl games).



Among schools that provide sports wagering or gambling-related education, what topics are covered? (Select all that apply)

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Sports wagering terminology	89%	84%	80%	62%	85%	78%	69%	58%
NCAA rules	100%	97%	92%	97%	100%	98%	95%	98%
Well-being (e.g., gambling addiction)	24%	21%	14%	18%	34%	27%	21%	20%
State and federal laws	49%	46%	16%	21%	54%	43%	26%	17%
Inside information policies	89%	62%	20%	17%	78%	66%	24%	8%
Dealing with gambler harassment	—	—	—	—	29%	13%	6%	1%

Note:

- Question on whether schools provide education on how to deal with harassment by people with sports wagering interests was only included in the 2023 survey.

In general, how is gambling/wagering education being delivered?

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
In-person by athletics staff	97%	97%	92%	95%	95%	94%	89%	89%
In-person by other campus staff	3%	2%	5%	2%	5%	2%	3%	1%
In-person by guests or outside experts	19%	6%	2%	2%	44%	25%	7%	5%
Handouts / fact sheets	76%	67%	49%	40%	49%	42%	35%	42%
Video	16%	12%	4%	14%	2%	6%	5%	8%
Online modules / courses	16%	11%	13%	5%	2%	5%	15%	5%
Email or text reminders	—	—	—	—	95%	89%	56%	41%

Note:

- Percentages among those schools that provide education. Question on whether schools deliver information via text/email was only included in the 2023 survey.

“Should NCAA student-athletes be required to complete an educational module on sports wagering / gambling at least once during their college career?”

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Yes	65%	72%	72%	63%	76%	79%	83%	68%
No	35%	28%	28%	37%	24%	21%	17%	32%

“If the NCAA national office was to provide educational resources on sports wagering / gambling, how likely would you be to use them?”

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Very likely	42%	53%	50%	33%	60%	65%	46%	40%
Likely	44%	37%	40%	43%	25%	29%	44%	43%
Not sure	14%	9%	8%	20%	15%	5%	8%	14%
Unlikely	0%	1%	1%	3%	0%	0%	0%	3%
Very unlikely	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	1%	2%	< 1%

“For which of the following topics would you be most likely to use NCAA-provided educational resources?” (Select all that apply)

	2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Sports wagering terminology	80%	83%	88%	76%
NCAA sports wagering bylaws and penalties	80%	85%	87%	93%
Building a gambling harm reduction program	50%	51%	33%	23%
Problem gambling and well-being issues	48%	51%	36%	32%
State and federal wagering laws	35%	46%	35%	32%
How to avoid providing inside information	80%	80%	37%	20%
Dealing with gambler harassment	83%	69%	31%	19%

Note:

- Other topics mentioned: Lists of fantasy sites and other online gambling options that violate NCAA rules; mental health resources for student-athletes experiencing anxiety/depression due to ridicule from gamblers on social media.

“Does your school use a sports wagering integrity service to monitor games/matches?”

	2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Yes	34%	13%	1%	0%
No	66%	88%	99%	100%

- Note:
- Questions on sports wagering integrity services only included in the 2023 survey.

“Why does your school not use a sports wagering integrity service?” (Select all that apply)

	2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
The conference office does so on our behalf.	63%	19%	2%	0%
We rely on the NCAA for this support.	19%	24%	18%	10%
Integrity monitoring seems less relevant for our school.	0%	21%	43%	38%
This is not a topic we have addressed at this point.	26%	51%	65%	68%
Other	7%	16%	9%	5%

Note:

- Questions on sports wagering integrity services only included in the 2023 survey. Question asked only when school indicated that they do not use an integrity service. Most of the comments under “other” dealt with cost/budget concerns. A few schools mentioned that a state agency monitors integrity issues.

“Compared to other compliance issues for which you are responsible, how concerned are you about sports wagering / gambling?”

	2019 Study				2023 Study			
	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III	AG5	Division I (total)	Division II	Division III
Extremely or moderately concerned	38%	20%	7%	7%	53%	30%	17%	10%
Somewhat or slightly concerned	59%	74%	71%	61%	43%	59%	57%	64%
Not at all concerned	3%	6%	22%	33%	5%	11%	27%	26%

Describe successes and challenges encountered in providing sports wagering education (2023)

- A few success stories were shared in the survey comments:
 - ▶ Among many concerns about producing content that truly engaged their audiences, a number of schools mentioned how pleased they were with presentations by EPIC Risk Management that were arranged through a partnership with the NCAA. Having access to such presentations for free was greatly appreciated.
 - ▶ NCAA research data on sports wagering cited as providing important insights and talking points (e.g., golfers showing very high levels of all gambling behaviors).
 - ▶ Student-athletes engaging during conversations on the topic or reaching out to them after education sessions.
 - ▶ Compliance staff believe that many students and coaches are learning the rules (they just choose to ignore them).

Describe successes and challenges encountered in providing sports wagering education

(2023)

- A great number of challenges were described, primarily centered on the following themes:
 - ▶ The difficulty of producing varied and engaging content that captures the attention of students and coaches, especially when wagering education is often just one of many compliance messages or requirements to be covered in a brief pre-season meeting.
 - ▶ Rapidly evolving sports wagering landscape with sports wagering so readily available.
 - ▶ Easy to hide wagering behaviors by placing bets through someone else's account.
 - ▶ Concerns that NCAA rules cover too wide a range of activities from fantasy sports participation to betting on pro sports to betting on college sports to providing inside information and point shaving. Many feel student buy-in is lacking because behaviors such as putting \$20 into a pool are seemingly equated with the worst of the behaviors covered in NCAA bylaws. A number of comments that the NCAA should modernize the wagering legislation and focus on college (not pro) sports wagering.
 - ▶ Feelings of futility around how compliance staff are supposed to monitor and locate sports wagering violations. Many described frustration about rules they can't really enforce.

Sample of comments on sports wagering education challenges (2023)

- ▶ Hard to convey the seriousness of NCAA rules or even well-being concerns given that “the proliferation of online gambling and the implied relationship between gambling and NCAA sports has muddied the waters.” [DI FCS]
- ▶ “Sports wagering is a billion-dollar industry with the resources to influence student-athletes to gamble on a daily basis on every market front. Institutions do not have the resources or the funding to win this battle.” [DI FCS]
- ▶ “The sheer access of wagering activities available with technology is IMPOSSIBLE to monitor or track.” [DII]
- ▶ Many comments related to DII or DIII student-athletes (or those DI athletes in Olympic sports) not seeing the rules and education as relevant to them.



Sample of comments on sports wagering education challenges (2023)

- ▶ “In the grand scheme of all education that needs to be provided, sports wagering falls at the bottom of the importance list. Academic eligibility, drug testing, sexual violence and mental health are the priorities.” [DII]
- ▶ “I am also concerned about the impact of NIL on sports wagering. Not only do many student-athletes have more disposable income than before, but they are engaging with many 'sports junkies' in the NIL space that are not subject to the same restrictions on wagering that student-athletes are. If a student-athlete is being paid substantial sums of \$\$ by someone as part of an NIL arrangement, it becomes that much more difficult to resist entreaties to share information about the team.” [DI autonomy]





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