



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 8, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

1. Membership Expectations.

- a. The NCAA Division I Transformation Committee reviewed outcomes of its October 26-27 in-person meeting discussions regarding membership expectations.
- b. The Transformation Committee noted that membership expectations should be satisfied for institutions and conferences to access the benefits of Division I membership: championships participation, governance representation and revenue distribution.
- c. The committee has discussed the appropriate runway to provide for the effective date of enhanced membership expectations to provide an opportunity for schools to budget and plan for meeting new requirements. A runway of up to two years is generally supported by the committee.
- d. The Transformation Committee continues to discuss which membership expectations should be required in all subdivisions and which could be stratified by subdivision.

2. Subgroup Discussions.

- a. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Championships Subgroup:** The Championships Subgroup engaged in additional discussion regarding the financial impact of potential expansion of championships brackets in highly sponsored sports. In addition, the subgroup continued its discussions related to elevation of the championships travel experience for student-athletes.
- b. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Decision-Making Subgroup:** The Decision-Making Subgroup reviewed the latest draft of a future Division I decision-making structure and continued to refine its recommendations with a focus on how to accommodate sports with low sponsorship within a more sport-specific governance structure.
- c. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Presidential Subgroup:** The Presidential Subgroup continued its review of issues related to student-athlete benefits and support.

3. Discussion of Current Events, Constituent Feedback, and Correspondence from External Organizations.

- a. Transformation Committee members shared feedback they received during engagement with various conferences or during various external engagements, including the 2022 Faculty Athletics Representatives and D1 FAR annual meetings.
- b. Committee members reviewed correspondence from the Big East Conference that includes feedback on the Transformation Committee's areas of focus.

*Transformation Committee co-chairs: Julie Cromer, Ohio University
Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Amanda Conklin, Governance, Policy and Human Resources
Jenn Fraser, Governance, Policy and Human Resources
Kevin Lennon, Governance, Policy and Human Resources
Dave Schnase, Academic and Membership Affairs
Jerry Vaughn, Academic and Membership Affairs
Leeland Zeller, Governance, Policy and Human Resources*

Division I Transformation Committee November 8, 2022, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
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Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University.	
Janna Blais, Northwestern University.	
Dean Bresciani, North Dakota State University.	
Greg Christopher, Xavier University.	
Patrick Chun, Washington State University.	
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Damon Evans, University of Maryland, College Park.	
Robin Harris, The Ivy League.	
Bob Jacobsen, University of California, Berkeley.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Shane Lyons, West Virginia University.	
Gloria Nevarez, West Coast Conference.	
Jim Phillips, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Greg Sankey (co-chair), Southeastern Conference.	
Kendall Spencer, Georgetown University.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Absentees:	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.	
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University.	
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**REPORT OF THE
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NOVEMBER 15, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

1. Student-Athlete Voice in the Decision-Making Process.

- The NCAA Division I Transformation Committee received an update from the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee regarding its recommendations related to the student-athlete voice in the decision-making process (outlined below). SAAC updated its recommendations based on feedback received from the Transformation Committee during its October in-person meeting. The Transformation Committee will continue to review SAAC's recommendations and determine how they will be incorporated into the Transformation Committee's overall recommendations to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors.

Conference-Level Recommendations from the Division I SAAC.

- **Concept No. 1** (*SAAC Oversight*) – Require the conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to be directly overseen by a member of the conference's senior management team or someone in a comparable position of authority with decision-making responsibilities and direct access to the commissioner or executive director.
- **Concept No. 2** (*SAAC Composition*) – Require conferences to establish a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee executive team that is composed of, at a minimum, a conference SAAC president/chair and vice president/chair.
- **Concept No. 3** (*Committee Representation – Operational Body*) – Require conferences to have at least two student-athlete representatives on primary operational-level committees at the conference level (e.g., primary conference body of campus practitioners below the presidential level). The student-athlete representatives may be voting members or ex-officio.
 - At the presidential level, conferences should establish at least two opportunities per academic year for the president that serves as the chief conference leader and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee chair to engage.
 - Conferences should establish at least two opportunities per academic year for all conference leaders of operational committees (presidents, athletics directors, senior woman administrators, faculty athletics representatives and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee) to engage.
 - In cases of individual time constraints, conflict of interest, or issues of confidentiality, the student-athlete representatives are subject to all conference committee rules and bylaws.

- **Concept No. 4** (*Committee Representation – Sport Committees*) – Require conferences to have at least one student-athlete from the sport serving on each of its conference sport committees, where applicable.
 - Conferences should increase the number of student-athlete representatives if sport committees are combined (e.g., track and field).
 - Conferences should solicit feedback from national SAAC representatives or the conference SAAC executive team for recommendations of nominations to sport-specific committees.
 - The student-athletes are expected to adhere to the same conference committee rules and bylaws as other committee members.
- **Concept No. 5** (*Committee Representation – Ad Hoc or Special Issues Committees*) – Require conferences to have at least one student-athlete serving on any ad hoc or conference committee established to address issues directly impacting student-athletes (e.g., physical and mental health and safety, diversity, equity and inclusion and belonging, sportsmanship/ethical conduct, championship experience, student-athlete experience), where applicable.
 - Student-athlete composition in these groups is not limited to Student-Athlete Advisory Committee members.
 - Conferences should establish regular opportunities (at least two opportunities per academic year) for engagement with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
 - The student-athletes are expected to adhere to the same conference committee rules and bylaws as other committee members.
- **Concept No. 6** (*Sport-Specific Student-Athlete Groups – Football, Men's and Women's Basketball*) – Recommend that conferences establish sport-specific student-athlete engagement and advocacy groups in football (where applicable) and men's and women's basketball. The sport-specific groups would serve as a sounding board and would provide feedback on sport-specific issues impacting the student-athlete experience.
 - Conferences should establish student-athlete engagement and advocacy groups in others sports, as appropriate.
 - Student-athlete composition in these groups is not limited to

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee members.

- It is strongly encouraged that there is an established relationship between the engagement groups and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee for collaboration on common topics.
- If these groups are formed, the committee chair should serve on the conference SAAC executive team and as a member of their sport's standing committees (where applicable).

Institution-Level Recommendations from Division I SAAC.

- **Concept No. 1** (*SAAC Oversight*) – Require the institutional Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to be directly overseen by a member of the institution's athletics senior management team or someone in a comparable position of authority with decision-making responsibilities and direct access to the director of athletics.
- **Concept No. 2** (*SAAC Composition*) – Require institutional athletics departments to establish a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee executive team that is composed of at least five members, including two in designated leadership positions (president and vice president or co-chairs).
- **Concept No. 3** (*Committee Representation – Operational Body*) – Require institutions to have at least two student-athlete representatives on the primary athletics department operational-level committees (e.g., senior leadership team, senior management team). The student-athlete representatives may be voting members or ex-officio.
 - Institutional athletics departments should establish at least two opportunities per academic year for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee chair to engage with the director of athletics, senior woman administrator, and faculty athletics representative.
 - The student-athletes are expected to adhere to the same athletics department committee rules and bylaws as other committee members.
- **Concept No. 4** (*Committee Representation – Coaches Committees*) – Require institutions to have at least one student-athlete serve on each of its coaches committees, where applicable.
 - Institutions should solicit feedback from the institutional SAAC executive team for recommendations of nominations to sport-specific coaches committees.

- The student-athletes are expected to adhere to the same athletics department committee rules and bylaws as other committee members.
- **Concept No. 5** (*Committee Representation – Ad Hoc or Special Issues Committees*) – Require institutions to have at least one student-athlete serve on any ad hoc or athletics department committee established to address issues directly impacting student-athletes (e.g., physical and mental health and safety, diversity, equity and inclusion and belonging, sportsmanship/ethical conduct, student-athlete experience), where applicable.
 - Student-athlete composition in these groups is not limited to Student-Athlete Advisory Committee members.
 - The student-athletes are expected to adhere to the same athletics department committee rules and bylaws as other committee members.

2. Decision-Making Structure.

- a. The Transformation Committee has agreed upon the following outcomes for a revised decision-making structure.
 - 1) A decision-making system that appropriately balances necessary and important checks in the system with not being overly bureaucratic. This will be accomplished in part by the sequence and frequency of meetings by avoiding too much lag time between meetings.
 - 2) Decisions should be pushed as far down in the structure as possible and to responsible committees that are composed of engaged and experienced representatives with knowledge of the sport.
 - 3) To successfully manage its responsibilities, the Oversight Council shall establish subcommittees.
 - 4) All sports for which there is a Division I and National Collegiate Championship shall have a Sport Management Committee. The Transformation Committee will consider whether sports that have both genders (e.g., men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball) should operate with a single management committee.
- b. The Transformation Committee will continue to discuss and refine its recommendations related to the Division I decision-making structure leading up to its final report to the Board of Directors.

3. Subgroups.

- a. **Presidents and Chancellors.** The Presidential Subgroup continued its review of issues related to student-athlete benefits and support. In addition, the subgroup engaged in preliminary discussions regarding the future composition of the Board of Directors.
- b. **Championships.** The Championships Subgroup engaged in additional discussion regarding the financial impact of potential expansion of championships brackets in highly sponsored sports. In addition, the subgroup continued its discussions related to elevation of the championships travel experience for student-athletes.
- c. **Health and Safety.** A newly formed subgroup of Transformation Committee members discussed potential membership expectations related to healthy and safety. The subgroup will meet to discuss health and safety expectations during the November 29 Transformation Committee meeting.

4. Discussion of current events, constituent feedback, and correspondence from external organizations.

- a. Transformation Committee members shared feedback they received during recent conference meetings.
- b. Committee members reviewed a report provided to the Division I Transformation Committee and the Division I Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) by the U.S. Council for Athletes' Health.

Transformation Committee co-chairs: Julie Cromer, Ohio University

Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference

Staff Liaisons:

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Dave Schnase, Academic and Membership Affairs

Jerry Vaughn, Academic and Membership Affairs

Leeland Zeller, Governance, Policy and Human Resources

Report of the Division I Transformation Committee

November 15, 2022, Videoconference

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Division I Transformation Committee November 15, 2022, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
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Kendall Spencer, Georgetown University.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University.	
Absentees:	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Brynn Carlson, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Ami Gianchandani, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon, Dave Schnase, Jerry Vaughn, and Leeland Zeller.	
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**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 29, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

1. Student-Athlete Benefits and Membership Expectations.

- The NCAA Division I Transformation Committee received a comprehensive update on the student-athlete benefits and membership expectations model the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Presidential Subgroup has worked to develop over the course of several months. The model will be handed over to the NCAA Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action to support its future work and engagement with congress.

2. Update from Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action.

- The Transformation Committee received an update on the work of the Board of Governors Subcommittee on Congressional Engagement and Action.

3. Subgroup Discussions.

- a. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Championships Subgroup.** The Championships Subgroup established the following agreed upon outcomes for enhancing the Division I championship experience:

- 1) NCAA Division I championships aim to provide national-level competition among the best eligible student-athletes and teams. Governing sport and oversight committees for Division I championship team sports sponsored by more than 200 institutions should fully consider how to accommodate access for 25% of active Division I members in good standing. Considerations should account for impacts on the timing of the postseason, the total length of the postseason, necessary format changes, broadcast and other partners, budget resources, and host entity event management.
- 2) Division I championships should be composed in a manner that reflects the highest level of bracket composition and quality of competition, including seeding at least 50% of teams.
- 3) The NCAA Division I Board of Directors and the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee should fully consider an increase to the championships budget that accommodates these recommendations to expand championships access, ensure the highest level of bracket composition, and elevate the travel experience for student-athletes.

- b. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Health and Safety Subgroup.** The subgroup discussed whether an accreditation or peer-review element should be

included within the health and safety minimum requirements. The subgroup will engage in additional discussion during its December 6 meeting.

- c. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Compliance Subgroup.** A subgroup of Transformation Committee members met separately in advance of the November 29 Transformation Committee to discuss potential membership expectations related to compliance. The subgroup recommends that the Transformation Committee consider establishment of a periodic audit requirement (perhaps once every three to four years) for institutional compliance operations to confirm that compliance programs are appropriately serving and supporting student-athletes. In addition, the subgroup recommends establishing education requirements for individuals who support athletics compliance, but are housed outside of athletics (registrar, admissions, financial aid etc.) due to the important role they play in a shared responsibility model. Lastly, the subgroup recommends that these critical staff members be required to attest on a periodic basis that they are adhering to established best practices related to their compliance duties.

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**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 6, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

- 1. Review, Discuss, and Provide Input on the Revised Decision-Making Structure Recommendations.**
 - a. The NCAA Division I Transformation Committee continued to refine its recommendations for a new Division I decision-making structure.
 - b. The committee will finalize its decision-making recommendations over the course of its last two meetings in preparation for delivery of the final Transformation Committee report to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors in January.
- 2. Subgroup Discussions.**
 - a. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Championships Subgroup.** The Championships Subgroup continued its work to finalize its recommendations for inclusion in the final report to the Board of Directors. The recommendations fall into the categories of elevating the travel experience for participants, revenue generation opportunities, revenue distribution policies, and a referral to sport communities to discuss the field size.
 - b. **NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Health and Safety Subgroup.** The Health and Safety Subgroup continued to discuss potential membership expectations related to health and safety, including the concept of a third-party accreditation or peer-review model. The Transformation Committee will discuss health and safety concepts during its December 13 meeting.
- 3. Discussion of Current Events, Constituent Feedback, and Correspondence from External Organizations.**
 - a. Members of the Transformation Committee debriefed the December 5 meeting of the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics.
 - b. The Transformation Committee also reviewed correspondence from the LEAD1 Association, the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the Women's Sports Foundation.

Report of the Division I Transformation Committee

December 6, 2022, Videoconference

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