Introduction: The 2013 membership survey findings will help Presidents Council, Management Council, Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, and the other governance committees assess membership satisfaction with existing Division III principles, legislative standards, programs and services. Responses were submitted electronically and are confidential. Participation was voluntary. Due to the rounding of percentages and not including the “don’t know” responses, the sum of percentages may not equal 100%.

Response Rate
- 447 Division III institutions were solicited and 346 responses (77%) were received.
- 278 respondents identified their institution.
- 39% of presidents or chancellors and 32% of senior administrators with athletics oversight were reported to have contributed to the completion of the survey.
- 92% of directors of athletics were reported to have contributed to the completion of the survey.

I. Current Perceptions
- Over 90% of responding institutions agreed with the following:
  - Division III student-athletes are provided the appropriate opportunities to pursue academics, athletics and other interests.
  - Athletics participation is just as valuable as other co-curricular activities.
  - Division III encourages participation by offering broad-based athletics programs.
- 59% agreed or strongly agreed that the current legislative standards are appropriate.

II. Strategic Positioning Platform and Current Identity Initiatives
- Approximately 90% of responding institutions have some level of agreement that the Strategic Positioning Platform has been communicated effectively to member institutions, that the platform accurately portrays the reality of athletics on campuses and that the platform is a useful tool.
- 55% have some level of agreement that the platform has been communicated effectively to external constituents.

III. Recruiting and Enrollment of Student-Athletes
- 71% of responding institutions agreed that recruitment of student-athletes is a key component in enrollment management.
- 61% somewhat agreed or agreed that the current recruiting model negatively impacts the work/life balance for coaches.
- No more than 41% had some level of agreement for the following:
  - The division should establish further limits on recruiting.
  - The division should establish fewer limits on recruiting.
  - The division should pursue greater restrictions for off-campus recruiting in exchange for additional on-campus recruiting opportunities.
- 91% expressed some level of agreement that the division should continue to examine the current recruiting model and its impact on coaches.

IV. Financial Aid
- 41% of the responding institutions agreed the current prohibition of considering leadership in athletics in the awarding of financial aid is appropriate. In addition:
  - 12% somewhat agreed.
  - 16% somewhat disagreed.
  - 17% disagreed.
  - 13% strongly disagreed.
- 83% somewhat agreed or agreed that the Financial Aid Reporting Program is a useful tool.
V. Academic Performance and Continuing Eligibility
- 77% of responding institutions somewhat agreed or agreed that the current voluntary graduation rate reporting program is a useful and relevant tool.
- 92% had some level of agreement that the Division III primary focus should be on intercollegiate athletics as a four-year undergraduate experience.
- 39% agreed that graduate students should be permitted to compete at an institution other than where they received their baccalaureate degree. In addition:
  - 17% somewhat agreed.
  - 9% somewhat disagreed.
  - 33% disagreed.

VI. Sport Sponsorship and Membership
- 37% of responding institutions preferred the current minimum of 12 sports assuming allowances for schools with small enrollments and single-gender institutions.
  - 24% prefer a lower minimum.
  - 39% prefer a higher minimum.
- 74% agreed that Regional Rules Seminars are an effective education opportunity.
- 84% agreed that the Regional Rules Seminars should be offered at locations closer in proximity to Division III institutions.

VII. Presidential Leadership
- 78% of directors of athletics report to someone other than the president or chancellor.
- 80% or more somewhat agreed or agreed that presidents and chancellors should be more actively involved in the governance of intercollegiate athletics at the national, conference and campus level.
- 75% or more somewhat agreed or agreed that the administrator to whom the director of athletics reports should be more actively engaged in the governance of intercollegiate athletics at the national, conference and campus levels.

VIII. NCAA Championships
- 47% of responding institutions agreed that the division currently meets the expectation of fully funding a school’s participation in NCAA championships.
  - 18% somewhat agreed.
  - 13% somewhat disagreed.
  - 18% disagreed.
- 69% disagreed the division should pursue opportunities for combined championships with Divisions I and II if it lengthened the season, while 8% agreed the division should pursue such opportunities.
- 46% disagreed the division should pursue opportunities for combined championships even if it doesn’t increase the length of the season, while 17% agreed the division should pursue such opportunities.
- 71% preferred the current three-week maximum to conduct the championships.
- 57% preferred the current championship team sport access ratio of 1:6.5.
  - 31% preferred a lower ratio (resulting in more access).
  - 12% preferred a higher ratio (resulting in less access).
• The four championship policies and/or potential enhancements most supported by responding institutions (in rank order):
  o Expand travel party sizes include additional athletics eligible to compete.
  o Reimburse institutions that travel by air for local transportation costs at the championship site.
  o Increase the travel party sizes to include an administrator who is the primary institutional representative onsite.
  o Amend the bracketing principles for preliminary-round site selection to guarantee top regionally ranked teams the opportunity to host in the first round.

IX. The Governance Structure
• More than 80% of responding institutions expressed some level of agreement that the governance structure is accessible, understandable, trustworthy, and that they are well represented within the structure.
• 66% to 83% at least somewhat agreed that the role of the following should be further clarified and strengthened in the governance of the division: faculty athletics representatives, senior woman administrators, individuals with direct oversight of the director of athletics and Student-Athlete Advisory Committees (SAAC).

X. The Legislative Process and NCAA National Convention
• More than 65% of responding institutions agreed that the legislative cycle and the format of the national Convention are appropriate.
• 45% somewhat disagreed or disagreed the national Convention is a good use of time for presidents and chancellors.

XI. Health and Safety
• 93% of responding institutions have some level of agreement that the NCAA is appropriately positioned to help protect the health and well-being of student-athletes.
• 70% somewhat agreed or agreed schools should be required to designate a licensed team physician.

XII. Communications
• More than 80% of responding institutions have some level of agreement that NCAA national office communications efforts and methods are effective.

XIII. Strategic Planning and Budget
• 54% of responding institutions believe the current allocation of 75% for championships and 25% for non-championship initiatives is appropriate.
  o 20% believe we should allocate more to championships.
  o 26% believe we should allocate more to non-championship initiatives.
• 82% believe the current reserve policy is appropriate.
• There was no clear consensus on what action the division should take to avoid dropping below the 80% minimum reserve policy.
  o 56% at least somewhat agreed that the policy should be reduced below the 80% minimum.
  o 47% at least somewhat agreed the division should purchase additional financial recovery insurance.
• 44% agreed that in the past five years, budget issues have affected their ability to sponsor their athletics program.
  o 45% agreed that budget issues in the next 3-5 years will have an impact.
  o 44% agreed that budget issues in the next 6-10 years will have an impact.
• The five non-championship programs deemed most important to responding institutions were the following (in rank order):
  o The Conference Grant Program.
  o The Student-Athlete Leadership Forum.
  o The Ethnic Minority and Women’s Intern Program.
  o The Strategic Alliance Matching Grant.
  o The Special Olympics Partnership.

XIV. Diversity, Inclusion and Gender Equity
• 85% or more of responding institutions had some level of agreement that the division should partner with external organizations, conferences and institutions to support and expand programming to enhance opportunities that promote diversity and inclusion.