ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.


   (1) **Recommendation.** Sponsor legislation for the 2017 NCAA Convention to amend Bylaw 12 (amateurism) to specify that following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may accept prize money in individual sports based on his or her place finish or performance in an open athletics event. The competition must occur outside the institution’s declared playing season during the institution’s official summer vacation period; further, to specify that such prize money shall not exceed the student-athlete's actual and necessary expenses and may be provided only by the sponsor of the event. Actual and necessary expenses may not include the expenses or fees of anyone other than the student-athlete.

   (2) **Effective date.** August 1, 2017.

   (3) **Rationale.** Division II legislation currently permits a student-athlete to receive awards for participation in events while not enrolled as a regular student during the academic year, or during the summer while not representing his or her institution. The award must conform to the regulations of the recognized amateur organization that governs the competition. Such awards may include gift certificates, but not cash. Further, although Division II legislation permits student-athletes to compete as an individual not representing the institution, a student-athlete is precluded from receiving prize money during the academic year outside the institution’s declared playing season or during the institution’s official summer vacation period. The scope of this proposal is limited to receipt of actual and necessary expenses related to competition. A student-athlete would not be able to profit from accepting prize money. Moreover, in order to safeguard against missed class time and to minimize the potential distraction during the academic year, this proposal only applies to participation in open events during the institution's official summer vacation period and outside the playing season. Finally, the calculation of actual and necessary expenses would not include the expenses or fees of anyone other than the student-athlete (e.g., coach’s fees, parent's expenses).
(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** A student-athlete in an individual sport will have increased flexibility to accept prize money to assist in covering expenses resulting from participation in open events that occur outside the institution’s playing season during the summer vacation period.

b. **2017 Convention Legislation – Bylaw 12.1.4 -- Amateurism -- General Regulations -- Impermissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment – Preferential Treatment, Benefits or Services -- Exception -- Designation for Fundraising Money.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Sponsor legislation for the 2017 Convention to amend Bylaw 12.1.4 (impermissible -- following initial full-time collegiate enrollment) to establish an exception to the preferential treatment, benefit or services rule to specify that it is permissible for an institution to designate money earned by a student-athlete in an institutional fundraiser specifically for that student-athlete up to the actual and necessary expenses for the specific item (e.g., transportation, uniforms); further, to specify that any unearned money shall go to the institution, athletics department or team. Further, to establish a definition of earned and unearned money.

(2) **Effective date.** August 1, 2017, for any fundraising activities that occur on August 1, 2017, and thereafter.

(3) **Rationale.** Currently, a student-athlete cannot fundraise and have that money credited towards the student-athlete for purchase of the item (e.g., transportation, uniforms). Rather, any money that a student-athlete fundraises must go into a general account. The proposed change would permit the institution to designate funds for a specific student-athlete up to actual and necessary expenses if the funds are earned. Any unearned monies from athletically related fundraisers or direct appeals must go to the institution, athletics department or team, given the strong connection to potential preferential treatment issues based solely on an individual’s reputation or skill. A distinction should be made between earned and unearned funds when objective factors can be accounted for if the money is earned working, volunteering or selling. This protects against individual preferential treatment. Establishing a distinction between "earned" and "unearned" funds will permit institutions to designate funds in a limited manner with appropriate institutional oversight. The safeguard against legitimate preferential treatment is maintained in order to prevent a
student-athlete from using his or her athletics reputation or skill as the sole basis for receipt of funds.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** A student-athlete may earn money in institutional fundraisers that may be credited directly to the student-athlete’s expenses.


(1) **Recommendation.** Sponsor legislation for the 2017 Convention to amend Bylaw 15 (financial aid) to specify that only athletics aid counts toward individual and team equivalency limits.

(2) **Effective date.** August 1, 2018.

(3) **Rationale.** Under current legislation, the calculation of individual equivalencies includes all institutional aid received during the term of the award, excluding government grants and exempted institutional aid. This method of calculation can result in a student-athlete having to decline financial aid for which he or she is eligible due to concerns of exceeding the individual and/or team equivalency limits. According to the 2015 GOALS study, more than two-thirds of Division II student-athletes report that college costs were an important consideration in making their college choice. Amending the legislation to count only athletics aid will permit institutions to award athletics aid to deserving student-athletes without concern of the impact on other aid sources and may have a positive impact on enrollment management. Division II financial aid data demonstrates that only four institutions fully fund their athletics programs and only 13 percent of teams are fully funded. Further, a model in which only athletics aid counts toward the individual and team equivalency limits would significantly reduce administrative burden. Institutions would only be responsible for tracking the aid awarded by the athletics department and ensuring that student-athletes do not receive a financial aid package that exceeds a full grant-in-aid or the cost of attendance.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** Will vary.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Will vary.

(1) **Recommendation.** Sponsor legislation for the 2017 Convention to amend Bylaw 15.6.3.1 (one-year limit) to specify that an offer of athletically related financial aid shall not be awarded for a period of less than one academic year; further, to establish exceptions for providing athletically related financial aid for less than one academic year, as specified.

(2) **Effective date.** August 1, 2018.

(3) **Rationale.** Current legislation permits an institution to offer athletics aid on a term-by-term basis. According to the 2015 GOALS study, nearly one-half of Division II student-athletes have concerns about how finances will impact their ability to complete their degree. Eliminating term-by-term awards addresses student-athlete well-being concerns by ensuring that a student-athlete will know the status of his or her financial aid agreement for the full academic year. In addition, it eliminates situations where the receipt of athletically related financial aid for the spring term may be based on athletics performance in the fall term. However, in certain situations, an aid agreement for less than one academic year is appropriate and does not detrimentally impact the student-athlete. The proposed legislation includes several exceptions that provide flexibility to the institution in specific situations. The financial data indicates that roughly three quarters of financial aid awards are provided for a one-year term.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** Will vary.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** A student-athlete must be provided a financial aid agreement for the full academic year unless the student-athlete meets one of the legislated exceptions.

Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2017 Convention to amend Bylaw 15.6.4 (reduction and cancellation during period of award) to permit increases in athletically related financial aid at any time, for any reason.

Effective date. August 1, 2018.

Rationale. Current legislation permits an institution to increase athletics aid for any reason prior to the start of the period of the award. However, once the period of the award begins, athletics aid may only be increased if the institution can demonstrate the increase is unrelated in any manner to an athletics reason. Permitting an increase in athletics aid at any time, for any reason will provide institutions the discretion to distribute athletics aid as deemed appropriate on an individual campus.

Estimated budget impact. Will vary.

Student-athlete impact. Will vary.

f. Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaw 17.1.6.2.3 – Playing and Practice Seasons – General Playing-Season Regulations -- Weekly Hour Limitations -- Outside the Playing Season -- Football -- 14-Day Break at Conclusion of Season.

Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 17.1.6.2.3 (football) to specify that following the institution’s final contest in the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship, including any competition in a conference championship, out-of-season activities and countable athletically related activities are prohibited for a 14 consecutive calendar-day period.

Effective date. Immediate.

Rationale. At the 2013 Convention, the delegates adopted NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2013-13 (playing and practice seasons -- general playing season regulations -- weekly hour limitations outside of playing season -- 14-day break at conclusion of season), which created a 14-day legislated break at the conclusion of the season for all sports except football. During the 14-day break it is not permissible for a student-athlete to engage in any countable athletically related activities. Football was not included in the original proposal because the sport did not have the opportunity for team activities or skill instruction outside the playing
season. At the 2016 Convention, the membership adopted Proposal No. 2016-5 (playing and practice seasons -- general playing season regulations -- weekly hour limitations -- outside the playing season -- skill instruction – football) which established the opportunity for skill instruction outside the playing season in football. As a result, adding a legislated 14 consecutive calendar-day break in the sport of football at the conclusion of an institution's playing season provides consistency across all NCAA Division II sports and ensures that football student-athletes will be provided a sufficient break for recovery and to focus on academics.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Football student-athletes will be provided a break at the conclusion of the season to recover and focus on academics.

g. Noncontroversial Legislation – Bylaw 17.1.6.2.2 – Playing and Practice Seasons – General Playing-Season Regulations -- Weekly Hour Limitations -- Outside the Playing Season -- Skill Instruction -- Definition of Co-Mingling.

(1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 17.1.6.2.2 (skill instruction) to specify that co-mingling occurs when a student-athlete rotates among multiple groups during a skill instruction session; further, to eliminate the restriction on coaches rotating from group to group during skill instruction provided at least one coach is present with each group during the conduct of skill instruction activity.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. At the 2016 Convention, the delegates adopted Division II Proposal No. 2016-5 (playing and practice seasons – general playing season regulations – weekly hour limitations – outside the playing season – skill instruction – football), which amended the out-of-season activities legislation in the sport of football. The proposal created the opportunity for football student-athletes to participate in up to two hours per week of individual skill instruction which renewed discussions about the definition of co-mingling. Clarifying the definition of co-mingling will assist the membership in applying the skill instruction legislation in the sport of football.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.
h. Incorporation of Interpretation into the NCAA Division II Manual.

(1) Recommendation. To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Fees and Expenses for Prospective Student-Athletes – Expenses Related to the I-20 (II)

The Division II Legislation Committee determined that an institution is permitted to pay actual and necessary expenses related to the issuance of a student-athlete’s I-20 (e.g., express mail charges, expenses to obtain necessary documents).

[References: Bylaws 13.15.2.1 (ACT and SAT scores) and 15.3.2.1.4 (fees and related expenses for prospective student-athletes).]

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the legislation regarding the provision of expenses related to the I-20.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

i. Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.

(1) Recommendation. To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Expenses to Obtain Translation of a Transcript (II)

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to pay the expenses to obtain a translation of an international student-athlete's transcript.

[References: Bylaw 13.15.1 (precollege expenses - prohibited expenses) and a staff interpretation (03/12/1999, Item No. a), which has been archived.]
(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the precollege expense legislation regarding permissible expenses to evaluate the academic standing of a prospective student-athlete.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

### j. Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.

(1) **Recommendation.** To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

**Expenses to Receive Prospect’s Transcripts and Express Mail Charges (II)**

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to pay the expenses to receive a prospective student-athlete's transcript, including any fee charged by the high school. An institution also may pay for express mail charges to have the transcript sent to the institution by the prospective student-athlete's educational institution.

[References: Bylaws 13.2.1 (general regulation) and 13.15.1 (precollege expenses -- prohibited expenses) and a staff interpretation (12/09/1994, Item No. a), which has been archived]

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the precollege expense legislation regarding permissible expenses to evaluate the academic standing of a prospective student-athlete.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

### k. Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.
(1) **Recommendation.** To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Payment for Prospect’s Test Score to be Sent to NCAA Eligibility Center

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that an institution may pay the fee for a prospect's ACT or SAT score to be sent from the testing agency to the NCAA Eligibility Center, provided the prospect has signed a National Letter of Intent or, for institutions not subscribing to the National Letter of Intent, has signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid with that institution.

[References: Bylaws 13.2.1 (offers and inducements -- general regulation), 13.15.1 (pre-college expense -- prohibited expenses) and 13.15.2.1 (ACT and SAT scores)]

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the official interpretation [Reference: 04/06/1994, Item No. 4] into the Manual will clarify the application of the legislation regarding the payment of permissible fees for a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written commitment to attend the institution.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

1. **Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.**

(1) **Recommendation.** To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Institution Providing Expenses for a High School to Send Transcripts to the NCAA Eligibility Center (II)

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to provide expenses (e.g., Federal Express charges) for a high school to send a prospect's academic transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center, provided the prospect has signed a National Letter of Intent or written offer of admission and/or athletically related financial aid
or the institution has received his or her financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

[References: Bylaw 13.15.2.1 (ACT and SAT scores) and a staff interpretation (08/24/1994, Item No. a), which has been archived]

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the legislation regarding the payment of permissible fees for a prospective student-athlete who has signed a written commitment to attend the institution.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

### m. Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.

(1) **Recommendation.** To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

**Application of Disciplinary Suspension to Graduate Transfer Student-Athletes (II)**

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that a graduate student who transfers to an NCAA member institution while the student is disqualified or suspended from his or her previous institution for disciplinary reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year in residence at the certifying institution.

[References: Bylaws 14.1.8.1 (one-time transfer exception), 14.5.1.1 (disciplinary suspension), 14.5.5.1 (general rule) and a staff interpretation (10/25/2013, Item No. b), which has been archived]

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the disciplinary suspension legislation to graduate student transfers.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.
n.  Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.

(1)  Recommendation.  To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Delayed Enrollment for Junior National/International Competition (II)

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that the exception to the delayed enrollment legislation for participation in national/international competition (e.g., Olympic Games, World Championships, National Team) applies only to the events specified in the legislation and does not extend to junior level competition (e.g., Youth Olympic Games, U20 World Cup, Junior National Team) that may be associated with the specified events.

[References: Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2.2 (exception -- national/international competition) and a staff interpretation (05/19/2011, Item No. a), which has been archived.]

(2)  Effective date.  Immediate.

(3)  Rationale.  Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the national/international competition exception to the organized competition legislation for junior level competition.

(4)  Estimated budget impact.  None.

(5)  Student-athlete impact.  None.

o.  Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.

(1)  Recommendation.  To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Use of Transfer Exceptions by a '2-4-4' Transfer (II)

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that if a student-athlete initially enrolls at a two-year college, transfers to another four-year
institution where the student-athlete is eligible for competition, attends the four-year institution for less than a full academic year and subsequently transfers to a Division II institution, the student-athlete may not use a transfer exception to be immediately eligible for competition at the Division II institution, unless the student-athlete would have been immediately eligible for competition under the Division II transfer regulations had the student-athlete transferred directly from the two-year college to the Division II institution.

[References: Bylaws 14.5.4 (two-year college transfers), 14.5.5.1.2 (attendance for less than one academic year), 14.5.5.3 (exceptions or waivers for transfers from four-year colleges) and a staff interpretation (01/08/2003, Item No. 1-a), which has been archived]

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the four-year college transfer legislation for student-athletes who initially enroll at a two-year institution and attend a four-year college for less than one academic year before transferring.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

p. **Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.**

(1) **Recommendation.** To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

Restrictions Regarding Exemption of Contests under Conference Challenge Event Legislation (II).

The Division II Legislation Committee determined that it is not permissible to exempt a contest between teams from the same conference as a part of a conference challenge event. In addition, the committee determined that if an out-of-region institution participates in an event, the event is no longer a conference challenge event. An institution may not exempt any contests played as a part of that event under the conference challenge exemption.
q. Incorporation of Interpretation into the Manual.

(1) **Recommendation.** To incorporate the following official interpretation into the Manual:

**Application of Contiguous State Principle to Conference Challenge Events (II)**

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that a contest played against an out-of-region opponent from a contiguous state may not be exempted as part of a conference challenge event.

[Reference: Bylaw 17.3.6.3 (annual exemptions)]

(2) **Effective Date:** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Incorporating the March 8, 2016, official interpretation into the Manual will clarify the application of the conference challenge event legislation.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

a. **Legislative Referral to NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee – Review of Four-Year College Transfer Legislation.**
(1) **Recommendation.** That the NCAA Division II Management Council refer the following issue to the Academic Requirements Committee for consideration of potential legislative changes:

Whether the current four-year college transfer legislation remains appropriate or should be amended.

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** The Legislation Committee requested that a detailed review of the four-year college transfer legislation be referred to the Academic Requirements Committee. The Legislation Committee committed to conducting a review of the four-year college transfer legislation following the Path to Graduation review which amended the initial eligibility, progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfer requirements. The Legislation Committee is currently conducting reviews of the financial aid legislation and the nonchampionship segment legislation. In an effort to spread the work more evenly and move the review of four-year college transfer legislation forward, the Legislation Committee believes the Academic Requirements Committee is an appropriate body to lead the review. The Academic Requirements Committee previously conducted a successful review with the Path to Graduation initiative and is equipped to do the same with the four-year college transfer legislation.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Will vary.

b. **Legislative Referral to NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports – Review of First Date of Practice – Soccer Championship Segment.**

(1) **Recommendation.** That the Management Council refer the following issue to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) for consideration:

Whether CSMAS supports the NCAA Division II Championships Committee’s legislative recommendation to amend the first permissible date of practice in soccer to permit a member institution to begin practice sessions in the championship segment 21 days before the first permissible
contest of five days before the institution’s first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** The Legislation Committee requests that CSMAS be given the opportunity to review the Championships Committee’s legislative recommendation regarding the first permissible date of practice in soccer. Specifically, the committee noted the importance of seeking CSMAS feedback regarding the health and safety implications of extending the soccer playing season.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Will vary.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of Division II Legislation Adopted at the 2016 Convention.** The committee reviewed the following proposals that were adopted at the 2016 Convention:

   a. **Division II Proposal No. 2016-3 -- Use of Credit Hours Earned in a Voluntary or Optional Minor during the Summer.** The committee was provided an update regarding the legislative action taken by the Academic Requirements Committee to clarify the application of the proposal during its February in-person meeting.

   b. **Proposal No. 2016-5 -- 14-Day Break following the Conclusion of the Playing Season.** The committee considered whether it was appropriate to amend Bylaw 17.1.6.2 (weekly hour limitations - outside of playing season) to establish a 14-consecutive calendar-day break following the conclusion of the football season. The committee agreed to recommend sponsorship of noncontroversial legislation to establish a legislated 14 consecutive calendar-day break in football. [See Legislative Action Item No. 1-f]

   c. **Proposal No. 2016-5 -- Clarification of Legislation Regarding Co-mingling of Groups in Skill Instruction.** The committee reviewed the application of the legislation regarding co-mingling of groups of student-athletes and coaches in skill instruction. The committee agreed to recommend sponsorship of a noncontroversial legislative proposal to permit coaches to rotate among groups during a skill instruction session provided at least one coach is present with each
group during the conduct of skill instruction activity. [See Legislative Action Item No. 1-g]

d. Proposal No. 2016-6 -- Requirements Associated with Conference Office Involvement in Conference Challenge Events. The committee considered whether it was appropriate to establish a requirement for conference offices to review and approve schedules for conference challenge events. The committee did not support such a change at this time, but agreed to recommend incorporation of two official interpretations regarding exemption of contests under the conference challenge legislation [Reference: 11/19/15, Item No. 3] and the application of the contiguous state principle into the Manual. [See Legislative Action Item Nos. 1-p and 1-o]

• Issuance of Official Interpretation. The committee agreed to issue the following official interpretation related to conference challenge events:

**Application of Contiguous State Principle to Conference Challenge Events (II)**

The Division II Legislation Committee confirmed that a contest played against an out-of-region opponent from a contiguous state may not be exempted as part of a conference challenge event.

[Reference: Bylaw 17.3.6.3 (annual exemptions)]

2. **Financial Aid Review.** The committee continued its discussion of the current financial aid legislation, including a review of the survey data from the 2016 Convention education session. The committee recommended sponsorship of three concepts for 2017 Convention legislation: (a) Count only athletics aid toward individual and current team equivalency limits; (b) Eliminate term-by-term financial aid awards; and (c) Permit increases in athletically related financial aid at any time, for any reason. [See Legislative Action Item Nos. 1-c, 1-d and 1-e]

3. **Review of the Nonchampionship Segment Legislation.** The committee engaged in a discussion about the complexities of the current nonchampionship segment legislation, and agreed to develop a legislative concept designed to simplify the application of the legislation. The committee directed staff to solicit feedback from the Management Council and the respective sport committees on two concepts:

a. **Sports Other than Golf, Tennis and Women's Rowing: Permit Countable Athletically Related Activity During a 45-Day Period and Require Two Days Off Per Week.** The current legislation requires institutions to toggle between in-
season and out-of-season countable athletically related activity limitations during the nonchampionship segment, which causes considerable confusion. This concept would permit countable athletically related activities to occur within a 45-day window and would require two days off per week. During the 45-day period, a student-athlete could only participate in 15 hours of countable athletically related activities per week and a maximum of four hours per day. In addition, the concept would require institutions to provide student-athletes two days off each week, instead of the one day off currently required. The 45-day period would omit vacation days and examination days officially announced or on days that the institution is closed due to inclement weather, as long as no practice occurs on such days.

b. **Golf and Tennis: Permit 30 Days of Countable Athletically Related Activity During a 60-Day Period.** The current legislation requires institutions to toggle between in-season and out-of-season countable athletically related activity limitations during the nonchampionship segment, which causes considerable confusion. This concept would only permit countable athletically related activities to occur on 30 days within the 60-day window and would no longer permit conditioning activities or skill instruction to occur on days that do not count towards the limit of 30. During the 60-day period, a student-athlete could only participate in 15 hours of countable athletically related activities per week. In addition, the concept would require institutions to provide student-athletes two days off each week, instead of the one day off currently required. The 60-day period would omit vacation days and examination days officially announced or on days that the institution is closed due to inclement weather, as long as no practice occurs on such days.

The concept of the 60-day window was presented by tennis coaches through the Division II Coaches Connection program. The recommendation was based on the current 60-day nonchampionship structure in golf, which was adopted in 2010. The rationale for the recommendation is that it would spread out the nonchampionship segment and reduce situations where student-athletes miss class time for several weeks in a row. The concept would provide institutions additional flexibility in scheduling. Many institutions do not own their tennis facilities and are subject to the availability of external venues, which creates significant challenges. Additionally, many coaches lead both the men's and women's programs, and this change will allow them adequate practice time with both programs. Finally, competition during the nonchampionship segment in both sports counts toward championship selections, so it is appropriate for these sports to have additional flexibility on both the number of in-season days and the window in which to use those days.
c. **Rowing.** The committee will continue to discuss the nonchampionship segment in rowing, which currently has 45 days within a period of 65 consecutive calendar days.

4. **Issuance of Official Interpretation.** The committee issued the following official interpretation to clarify that it is permissible for an institution to pay for actual and necessary expenses associated with the issuance of an I-20 to international student-athletes [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-h]:

Fees and Expenses for Prospective Student-Athletes – Expenses Related to the I-20 (II). The Legislation Committee determined that an institution is permitted to pay actual and necessary expenses related to the issuance of a student-athlete’s I-20 (e.g., express mail charges, expenses to obtain necessary documents).

[References: Bylaws 13.15.2.1 (ACT and SAT scores) and 15.3.2.1.4 (fees and related expenses for prospective student-athletes)]

5. **Elevation of Staff Interpretation.** The committee directed staff to elevate the following staff interpretation [Reference: 03/12/1999, Item No. a] to an official interpretation [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-i]:

Expenses to Obtain Translation of a Transcript: (II). The membership services staff confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to pay the expenses to obtain a translation of an international student-athlete’s transcript. The staff noted that such an arrangement is not precluded because receipt of such materials is necessary to certify or evaluate the academic standing of a prospective student-athlete. [Reference: Bylaw 13.15.1 (precollege expenses - prohibited expenses)]

6. **Elevation of Staff Interpretation.** The committee directed staff to elevate the following staff interpretation [Reference: 12/09/1994, Item No. a] to an official interpretation [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-j]:

Expenses to Receive Prospect’s Transcripts and Express Mail Charges. The legislative services staff confirmed that it is permissible for an institution to pay the expenses to receive a prospective student-athlete's transcript, including any fee charged by the high school. An institution also may pay for express mail charges to have the transcript sent to the institution by the prospective student-athlete's educational institution. The staff noted that such an arrangement is not precluded because receipt of such materials is necessary to certify or evaluate the academic standing of a prospective student-athlete. [Note: This minute clarifies the 09/27/89 staff minutes, item 1-(d), which has now been archived.]
7. **Elevation of Staff Interpretation.** The committee directed staff to elevate the following staff interpretation [Reference: 08/24/1994, Item No. a] to an official interpretation [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-k]:

**Payment for Prospect's Test Score to be Sent to Clearinghouse.** An institution may pay the fee for a prospect's ACT or SAT score to be sent from the testing agency to the Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse, provided the prospect has signed a National Letter of Intent or, for institutions not subscribing to the National Letter of Intent, has signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid with that institution.

[References: Bylaws 13.2.1 (offers and inducements -- general regulation), 13.15.1 (precollege expenses -- prohibited expenses) and 13.16.1 (precollege expense -- prohibited expenses) and 13.16.2.1 (ACT and SAT scores)]

8. **Elevation of Staff Interpretation.** The committee directed staff to elevate the following staff interpretation [Reference: 10/25/2013, Item No. b] to an official interpretation [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-m]:

**Application of Disciplinary Suspension to Graduate Transfer Student-Athletes (II).** The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that a graduate student who transfers to an NCAA member institution while the student is disqualified or suspended from his or her previous institution for disciplinary reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year in residence at the certifying institution.

[References: Bylaws 14.1.8.1 (one-time transfer exception), 14.5.1.1 (disciplinary suspension), 14.5.5.1 (general rule) and official interpretation (11/15/90, Item No. 7)]

9. **Elevation of Staff Interpretation.** The committee directed staff to elevate the following staff interpretation [Reference: 05/19/2011, Item No. a] to an official interpretation [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-n]:

**Delayed Enrollment for Junior National/International Competition (II).** The academic and membership affairs staff confirmed that the exception to the delayed enrollment legislation for participation in national/international competition (e.g., Olympic Games, World Championships, National Team) applies only to the events specified in the legislation and does not extend to junior level competition (e.g., Youth Olympic Games, U20 World Cup, Junior National Team) that may be associated with the specified events.

[Reference: Bylaw 14.2.4.2.2.2 (exception -- national/international competition)]
10. **Elevation of Staff Interpretation.** The committee directed staff to elevate the following staff interpretation [Reference: 01/08/2003, Item No. 1-(a) to an official interpretation and clarify the application for all student-athletes, including a transfer from a Division I or II institution. [See also Legislative Action Item No. 1-o]:

Use of One-Time Transfer Exception by a '2-4-4' Transfer (II). If a qualifier initially enrolls at a two-year college, transfers to a Division III or four-year nonmember institution where the student-athlete is eligible for competition, attends the Division III or four-year nonmember institution for less than a full academic year and subsequently transfers to a Division II institution, the student-athlete may not use the one-time transfer exception set forth in NCAA Bylaw 14.5.5.3.11 to be immediately eligible for competition at the Division II institution, unless the student-athlete would have been immediately eligible for competition under the Division II transfer regulations had the student-athlete transferred directly from the two-year college to the Division II institution. For example, a student-athlete who is a qualifier initially enrolls at a two-year college, attends the two-year college for two full-time semesters and completes 22 hours of transferable degree credit with a 2.75 cumulative grade-point average, transfers to an NAIA institution and is eligible for competition under NAIA rules, officially withdraws from the NAIA institution after only one week of attendance and subsequently transfers to a Division II institution. In that case, the student-athlete is not eligible to use the one-time transfer exception upon transferring to the Division II institution even if the student-athlete would have been eligible had he or she remained at the NAIA institution, inasmuch as the student-athlete failed to complete 24 hours of transferable degree credit at the two-year college as required by the Division II two-year college transfer regulations.

[References: Bylaws 14.5.4 (two-year college transfers), 14.5.4.2.1 (qualifier), 14.5.5.3 (exceptions or waivers for transfers from four-year colleges) and 14.5.5.3.11 (one-time transfer exception)]

11. **Referral from the NCAA Division II Presidents Council and Management Council Regarding a Legislative Recommendation for Permission to Contact and Consent to Use the One-Time Transfer Exception from National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Institutions.** The committee received an update on conversations between the Legislation Committee chair, NCAA staff and the NAIA leadership. The NAIA leadership indicated that it would engage its membership in a discussion about potential changes to NAIA policies and legislation at the 2016 NAIA Convention in April. The Legislation Committee will continue to monitor the progress of NAIA discussions.

12. **Discussion Regarding Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment and NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief Waivers.** The committee
received an update from staff regarding organized competition certification outcomes and legislative relief waivers. Currently, if a prospective student-athlete participates in organized competition after his or her one-year grace period, the individual is charged with the use of a season of competition, regardless of the amount of competition the student-athlete participated in during each calendar year. Additionally, the individual must serve an academic year in residence unless he or she meets an exception. For the previous two certification cycles, Division I has embraced a model known as the temporary review process. The process provides staff the discretion to apply a one-for-one withholding penalty in lieu of charged a full season and requiring the student-athlete to fulfill a year in residence in instances where the participation amounts to 50 percent or less of the Bylaw 17 maximum. The committee requested the Eligibility Center staff provide a sport-by-sport analysis of the number of Division II prospective student-athletes who participated in less than 20 percent, between 20 percent and 50 percent, and more than 50 percent of the Bylaw 17 maximum in the last two certification cycles to continue the discussion at the June 2016 meeting.

13. **Update on the Referral of Issue Regarding Two-Year College Transfer Requirements to the Academic Requirements Committee.** The committee received an update on a recent noncontroversial legislative recommendation from the Academic Requirements Committee that would permit a student-athlete who has earned credit hours at a previous two-year institution (prior to the student-athlete's most recent attendance at a four-year institution) to use those credit hours to satisfy the two-year college transfer requirements for English, math and science.

14. **Discussion Regarding Removal of the Window of Reconsideration at 2017 Convention.** At the request of the Presidents Council, the committee considered whether the Council should sponsor legislation for the 2017 NCAA Convention to remove the window of reconsideration during the Convention business session. The committee did not support elimination of the window of reconsideration but was supportive of potential modifications to the current process.

15. **Review and Approval of the 2016-17 NCAA Division II Coaches Certification Test and Applicable Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2016-17 NCAA Division II Coaches Certification Test and its policies and procedures. The updated test includes questions pertaining to newly adopted legislation. The committee directed the Legislative Review Subcommittee to review the test, its purpose and identify possible changes for the 2017-18 test.

16. **Results from the most recent GOALS study.** NCAA research staff presented findings from the 2015 GOALS study (experiences of current student-athletes) that relate specifically to Division II.
17. **Discussion Regarding Fees Associated with Commercial Crowdfunding Websites.** The committee received an update on the current application of the legislation regarding the use of commercial crowdfunding websites and the fees associated with use of such services. The committee directed staff to gather additional information for further discussion at its June meeting.

18. **Discussion Regarding the NCAA and National Association of Athletics Compliance (NAAC) Outreach Program.** The committee received an update from staff regarding ongoing partnership initiatives with NAAC.

19. **Review of Interpretations Subcommittee Teleconference Reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the Interpretations Subcommittee teleconference reports from November 16, 2015, November 30, 2015, and January 11, 2016.

20. **Approval of the November 2015 Legislation Committee In-Person Meeting and February 2016 Teleconference Reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the November 3-4, 2015, in-person meeting and February 5, 2016, teleconference reports.


22. **Discussion of "Foundation for the Future" Initiative.** The committee was provided an update on the Foundation for the Future requests submitted by all committees.

23. **Review of the Legislation Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved a policy regarding committee member recusal during the review of membership-sponsored proposals.

24. **Future Meeting Dates.**

   
   b. July 2016 teleconference, to be determined;
   
   c. September 2016 teleconference, to be determined; and
   
Committee Chair: Natasha Oakes, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association

Staff Liaison(s): Karen Wolf, Academic and Membership Affairs
Amanda Conklin, Academic and Membership Affairs
Stephanie Quigg Smith, Academic and Membership Affairs
Angela Tressel, Academic and Membership Affairs

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<th>Attendees:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference.</td>
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<td>Peggy Davis, Virginia State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.</td>
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<td>Marty Gilbert, Mars Hill University, South Atlantic Conference.</td>
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<td>Chris Gregor, St. Martin's University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Jacob Long, Regis University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Barbara Hannum, Hawaii Pacific University, Pacific West Conference.</td>
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<td>Kelly McLaughlin, Regis University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Jacqie McWilliams, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.</td>
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<td>Natasha Oakes, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.</td>
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<td>Pennie Parker, Rollins College, Sunshine State Conference.</td>
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<td>Kimberly Pate, University of Illinois at Springfield, Great Lakes Valley Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Van Drie-Andrzejewski, Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.</td>
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<td>Cherrie Wilmoth, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Great American Conference.</td>
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<th>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Conklin, Stephanie Quigg Smith, Angela Tressel and Karen Wolf.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Clar, Chelsea Crawford, Mike DeCesare, Maritza Jones, Julie Rainey, Rachel Stark, Terri Steeb Gronau, Kelley Sullivan, Gregg Summers, Ali Teopas, Ashley Thornburg, Jerry Vaughn and Jill Waddell.</td>
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