



Governance Hot Topics Spring 2018

Agenda

- Board of Governors updates.
 - Sexual violence prevention policy.
 - Championships alcohol pilot.
- Sport Science Institute (SSI) strategic plan.
 - NATA summit; NCAA injury surveillance; concussion protocols; and task force on football data (Feb.).
- 2018 NCAA Convention legislation outcomes.

Agenda

- Division III updates.
 - Membership-wide survey.
 - Ice hockey international certification pilot.
 - Senior Woman Administrator (SWA).
 - New educational resources.
- Working groups.
 - Sportsmanship and Game Environment; LGBTQ; and FAR Engagement.
 - Diversity and Inclusion – grad rate reporting.
- Division III identity initiatives.

Board of Governors (BOG) Updates

- Sexual violence prevention policy.
 - NCAA BOG adopted a policy (Aug. 2017).
 - Mandates education of athletics administrators, coaches and student-athletes.
 - Institutions will determine the types and manner of education provided.
 - The NCAA Sexual Violence Prevention Tool Kit and MyPlaybook are available educational tools.
 - March mailing – May signoff by the president/chancellor, athletics director and Title IX coordinator.

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Sexual violence prevention policy. During its Aug. 8 meeting, the NCAA Board of Governors adopted a Policy on Campus Sexual Violence that requires coaches, student-athletes and athletics administrators to complete education annually in sexual violence prevention. Institutions will determine the types and manner of education provided and the [NCAA Sexual Violence Prevention Tool Kit](#) is an available tool on NCAA.org.

When does the policy take effect? The policy is effective immediately, though the first deadline for attesting that the requirements have been met will be in spring 2018.

What is the deadline for completing the education for coaches, student-athletes and athletics staff? This education should be completed during the 2017-18 academic year to allow presidents or chancellors, athletics directors and Title IX coordinators to attest in the spring.

What is the deadline for presidents or chancellors, athletics directors and Title IX coordinators to attest that the education has occurred on campus?

The signoff form will be available electronically beginning March 1, 2018, and must be completed by May 15, 2018.

What type of education meets the expectations of the policy? The policy allows member schools to determine the types and manner of education provided. The NCAA Sexual Violence Prevention Tool Kit can assist member schools in this effort. The tool kit provides checklists for campus collaboration and educational resources created specifically for student-athletes. Those resources include the online curriculum myPlaybook, which includes a course on sexual violence prevention.

What happens after the deadline? A list of schools that have attested to the requirements of the Policy on Campus Sexual Violence will be presented in a report to the Board of Governors in August 2018, then published on ncaa.org.

Board of Governors (BOG) Updates

- Championships alcohol pilot.
 - Continued alcohol pilot for 2017-18 only.
 - Year-long study to determine next steps for 2018-19.
 - Legislation required to extend beyond the pilot
 - Federated decision.



Championships alcohol pilot. The BOG extended the championships alcohol pilot for a third consecutive year and included three additional Division I championships (wrestling, women’s volleyball and men’s ice hockey). Similar to action taken last year, the Division III Administrative Committee used its legislated authority, per Constitution 4.3.2, to permit the sale of alcohol (beer and wine only) at the 2018 Division III men’s lacrosse championship’s final site, as a part of the pilot. The pilot will conclude in 2017-18.

Each division will determine steps it wants to take beyond the expiration of the pilot. A legislative vote would be necessary to permanently change the current prohibition. Anticipate Presidents Council to determine next steps at its April meeting.

Sport Science Institute (SSI)

- Current initiatives and priority areas:
 - Concussion safety protocols.
 - Joint NCAA/NATA interassociation summit (Jan. 2017)
 - Mental health best practices. (Nov. 2017)
 - Task Force on Football Data. (Feb. 2018)
 - Injury surveillance program pilot.

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Recent SSI initiatives and priority areas:

In August, the BOG endorsed a recommendation from SSI and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport (CSMAS) for more uniformity across the Association regarding the use of existing concussion safety protocols. Consequently, staff anticipates the Management and Presidents Council with Divisions II and III to review noncontroversial legislation requiring institutions to use the NCAA Concussion Protocol checklist.

In January 2017, the NCAA held a joint interassociation task force with the National Athletics Trainers Association (NATA). Outcomes, expected in fall of 2018, will result in an interassociation consensus statement or summary report about key organizational and administrative aspects of athletics health care delivery. The statement/summary report will be intended to contribute to an NCAA member school's ability to meet evolving interassociation health and safety standards for college student-athletes.

In November, SSI hosted a task force that served as a follow-up to the 2013 Mental Health Task Force. The 2017 task force will identify strategies and resources that support the implementation of the Mental Health Best Practices and identify models of mental health care and measures of effectiveness for the best practices. Anticipate the final deliverables in the fall of 2018.

In late February, SSI is hosting a task force on football data. This Association-wide task force will examine data from the 2017 football season. Six representatives from the Management Council and Football Committee will attend and participate in the examination of concussions, head impact exposure, length of preseason and the use of footballs during the walk-throughs.

The governance staff is working with SSI to better enhance the use of the NCAA injury surveillance program by Division III institutions. The actual program is coordinated by Datalys. Currently most of Division III institutions have the technology to use Datalys, but less than 10 percent are using it due to the time demands to enter the data. Staff is seeking Management and Presidents Council feedback, along with membership input, on the establishment of a pilot in 2018-19. The pilot parameters include a solicitation of select institutions to provide injury data for select sports. Reducing the number of institutions and sports will reduce the administrative burden on athletic trainers.

2018 Key Convention Legislation

- Football playing and practice seasons. *DEFEATED.*
 - Councils will review outcomes of SSI Task Force Football Data and receive feedback from the Division III Football Committee.
 - Anticipate same waivers as 2017 preseason.
- National SAAC composition - amendment. *ADOPTED.*
- Graduate transfers – Division III to Division III. *ADOPTED.*
- Alumni contest exemption. *ADOPTED.*



Football preseason. The membership defeated 2018 Proposal No. 5, which included starting 25 days prior to the first game, no traditional two-a-days, a required day off per week, four-hour of practice time with no more than three hours during the contact practice, use of footballs allowed during the walk-throughs, and an opportunity for two scrimmages, joint practices or exhibitions.

With the membership defeating the proposal, the Management Council discussed the timeframe for action during its post-Convention meeting. In February, SSI will host the Task Force on Football Data and while the governance structure doesn't anticipate any recommended legislative actions for the 2018 season coming from the Task Force. Further, the Division III Football Committee will conduct a teleconference after the Task Force meets to review the outcomes and provide feedback, as appropriate. The Division III Administrative Committee meets shortly after the Task Force and committee teleconference, on March 6, and will discuss and potentially act on waivers for the 2018 football preseason. It's likely the Administrative Committee will focus on the same waivers that were relevant to the 2017 preseason (i.e., use of footballs during walk throughs, and permissible activities during the one and half "administration days"). There should be a much clearer picture and communication for the membership coming out of the March Administrative Committee meeting.

National SAAC composition. The membership adopted an amendment that now creates an advisory group of student-athletes to the national SAAC. The advisory group will consist of student-athletes from conferences not currently represented on national SAAC. The advisory group will meet with national SAAC in July in Indianapolis (funded by Division III) as well as at the NCAA Convention (funded by their institution and/or conference office). The advisory group will also participate in two annual teleconferences. The legislation has an effective date of August 1 therefore the first formal engagement will be the November teleconference. The Management Council separately has approved a comprehensive review of the SAAC conference partnership assignments.

Graduate transfers. The membership adopted the proposal to allow Division III student-athletes to transfer and pursue a graduate/postbaccalaureate degree at another Division III institution, provided they retain athletics eligibility. The current waiver – in school continuously, graduate early with a 3.0 GPA - remains in place for NAIA, Division I and II transfers. The legislation has an immediate effective date.

Alumni contests. The membership adopted the proposal to allow the exemption of alumni contests in all sports, except football. The effective date is August 1.

Division III Membership Survey

- Will distribute in February 2018 to every institution and conference office. One response per institution.
- Last survey was in 2013. Distribute every five years.
- Survey seeks feedback on Division III principles, legislative standards, processes, initiatives and programs.
- Feedback used by governance committees to shape future policies, legislation and initiatives. Results shared with the membership.



After receiving endorsement from SPFC and Management Council, staff will distribute a membership-wide survey to all institutions and conference offices in February. There will be one response per institution/conference. A membership-wide survey is distributed every five years; the last being in 2013. The survey seeks feedback on Division III principles, legislative standards, processes, initiatives and programs. Feedback will be shared with the Division III Management and President Councils in April as well as specific Division III governance and sport committees. The feedback will assist in shaping future policies, legislation, programs and initiatives.

Ice Hockey International Certification Pilot

- 2018-19 pilot approved by Management Council.
- Pilot includes all Division III men's and women's international, first year, ice hockey PSAs.
- Eligibility Center (EC) will complete sports participation review.
- The NCAA will pay the \$135 review fee by the EC.
- At the end of the 2018-19 academic year, staff and committees will evaluate the pilot outcomes.

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Pilot Parameters:

For the 2018-2019 NCAA Division III men's and women's ice hockey season, all Division III schools that sponsor men's and/or women's ice hockey will be required to participate in a one-year pilot.

The pilot parameters will include the following:

1. In coordination with the Eligibility Center, the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee and Management Council approved a pilot in 2018-19 for men's and women's international ice hockey student-athlete certification. The pilot parameters will include the following:
2. The NCAA Eligibility Center will conduct a sports participation review history of all international, first year men's and women's ice hockey players. For the purpose of the pilot, an international student is defined as any student who attended a secondary or postsecondary school outside the United States, participated in athletics outside the United States or whose permanent residence is outside the United States. A first-year student is defined as a student-athlete's first year at an NCAA Division III institution so transfer students with no prior Division III enrollment are included in the pilot.
3. All international, first year men's and women's ice hockey players must complete the Eligibility Center's free, online Profile Page to provide baseline information and obtain a unique NCAA ID number.
4. On August 1 or later, institutions that sponsor men's and/or women's ice hockey must submit the names of the international first year players on their men's and women's ice hockey rosters to the Eligibility Center (will need to define where this goes—perhaps ec-amateurism@ncaa.org?). All players must be accepted to and paid a deposit to the institution.
5. Upon receipt of the roster, the Eligibility Center will reach out to the international student-athletes for needed additional information to review the sports participation history. The review will include an assessment of the teams and leagues with which a prospective student-athlete participated, evaluation of any compensation or other benefits associated with athletics participation and evaluation of possible agent involvement. The review will not include any evaluation of delayed collegiate enrollment (NCAA Division III Bylaw 12.1.4).
6. There will not be an academic certification review.
7. All Eligibility Center reviews and findings are final and binding.
8. The NCAA will pay the \$135 (or less) fee to conduct each review. Anticipated pilot budget is no more than \$10,000.

Senior Woman Administrator (SWA) Updates

- At the membership's request, next year's Division III SWA program will occur at the NCAA Inclusion Forum. (Spring 2019)
- Selection process will be in Oct. with a final cohort of 30 senior woman administrators selected by mid-Nov. Recipients will still receive a one-year membership to Women Leaders in Sport.
- NCAA office of inclusion recently released the findings, located on NCAA.org, of an Association-wide study of the SWA designation.
 - Still confusion around the designation.
 - 70% of Division III institutions have zero to one female administrator(s).

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After a request from the membership, the third annual Division III SWA Program will move to the spring in the 2018-19 academic year. The program will be held in conjunction with the 2019 NCAA Inclusion Forum. Thirty participants will participate in the day and half professional development program and receive an annual membership to Women Leaders in College Sport (formerly NACWAA).

The NCAA office of inclusion recently released the findings of an Association-wide study of the SWA designation. Sixty-one (61) percent of SWAs, 42 percent of athletics directors and 67 percent of conference commissioners completed the survey. The survey revealed that there is still a lot of confusion around the designation. Only half of SWA respondents understand their role and a significant perception gap exists between athletics directors and SWAs. While 92 percent of athletics directors reported that they understand the SWA role, just 45 percent of SWAs reported having an athletics director who understands it. Further, the survey showed that 70 percent of Division III institutions had zero to one female administrator(s). The key findings as well as the full report are on NCAA.org.

New Educational Resources

- Four new Division III educational resources located on NCAA.org.
 - *Financial Aid Resource* focuses on the review of outside aid awards.
 - *Staying Compliant with Division III Rules* facilitates communication across campus regarding the athletics compliance process.
 - *Building Toward a Career in Collegiate Athletics* provides undergraduate students with ideas and tools to pursue a career in athletics.
 - *Time Demands Resource* provides PSAs with a better understanding of a student-athlete's time demands.

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There are four new Division III specific educational resources that have been distributed to the membership and are also located on NCAA.org.

The Financial Aid resource provides an easy to use flow chart to assist financial aid administrators in reviewing outside aid awards.

The Staying Compliant with Division III Rules resource is intended to facilitate communication regarding the athletics compliance process between the athletics department and all campus constituents (e.g. admissions, advancement, financial aid, registrar, etc.).

The Building Toward a Career in Collegiate Athletics is a resource for athletics administrators, coaches and faculty athletics representatives who are assisting students navigate a career in athletics.

The newest resource is the Division III Time Demands Resource that assists prospective student-athletes with having a better understanding of the time demands of a Division III student-athlete. This resource also will be in the Eligibility Center's Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete.

Gameday the DIII Way

- Gameday the DIII Way is a Division III-specific game environment standard to improve fan behavior and overall experience.
- 2018 NCAA Convention: Official program launch with a training session for convention delegates.
- To date, 110 facilitators who can conduct the 90-minute “Gameday the DIII Way” training on campuses or at conference meetings.
- Resources are available on the Division III Sportsmanship page. Anticipate online modules being available by Fall of 2018.

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The 2018 NCAA Convention was the official program launch of Gameday the DIII Way. This program is the outcome of a collaboration between the Division III Sportsmanship and Game Environment Working Group and the Disney Institute, a global leader in the development of customer service standards. Gameday the DIII Way provides Division III-specific game environment standards focused on improving parental and fan behavior.

To date, 110 Division III administrators are trained to facilitate the 90-minute training. In addition to the trained facilitators, there are resources available on NCAA.org on the Division III sportsmanship webpage. Staff anticipate online modules being available by the fall of 2018.

Article in Winter NCAA Champion magazine as well as a Jan. podcast with the working group chair, Gary Williams.

LGBTQ Working Group

- Survey distributed in Oct. 2017. Findings suggest:
 - Division III is welcoming & free from LGBTQ discrimination.
 - Majority do not have LGBTQ-inclusive policies.
 - No consensus on a LGBTQ-related celebration/recognition.
- Convention delegate feedback:
 - Create programming for coaches.
 - Provide LGBTQ signage.
 - Develop LGBTQ-inclusive policy templates.
- Resources on NCAA.org:
 - 5 Ways to Have an LGBTQ-Inclusive Athletics Department.
 - LGBTQ key terminology and definitions.

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At the 2018 NCAA Convention, the working group detailed its charge to examine the current and potential programming, resources, and recognition of the LGBTQ community and its allies in Division III, and increase the engagement and collaboration at the institutional, conference and national levels. The working group shared the findings of a membership-wide survey distributed in October 2017. It further conducted straw poll questions with the Convention delegates to assist in next steps. The membership feedback indicated the following:

- a. Create programming for coaches.
- b. Provide LGBTQ signage for institutions to display at their facilities.
- c. Develop LGBTQ-inclusive policy templates for use in institution and conference office handbooks.

The working group also encouraged the Convention delegates to use existing NCAA office of inclusion resources including 5 Ways to Have an LGBTQ-Inclusive Athletics Department and LGBTQ key terminology and definitions.

Faculty Athletics Representatives (FAR) Engagement Working Group

- Key focus areas presented at 2018 NCAA Convention.
 - Campus first focus.
 - More Student-Athlete Advisory Committee involvement.
- Proposed next steps:
 - Create an information sheet and develop best practices.
 - Provide an FAR orientation at Fall Forum. (biennial)
 - Change the FAR Institute format. (biennial)
 - Explore NCAA legislation to codify FAR expectations.

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At the 2018 NCAA Convention, the working group provided an update on its key focus areas:

- a. Campus first focus by engaging presidents and increasing length of FAR service.
- b. More involvement with campus, conference and national SAAC.

The working group anticipates the following next steps:

- a. Create an information sheet.
- b. Develop best practices.
- c. Implement an FAR orientation model and host in years that the Institute isn't being held. Host at the FAR Fall Forum.
- d. Revise FAR Institute to every other year.
- e. Explore NCAA legislation to codify FAR expectations.

SA Grad Rate Reporting

- Existing voluntary SA graduate reporting program is eight years old. Ethnic minority males graduating at a lower rate.
- Diversity and Inclusion Working Group requested the Councils consider annual mandatory reporting of SA graduation rates.
 - Several benefits of mandatory reporting.
 - Some concerns related to administrative burden.
- Presidents Council received mixed feedback during the Presidents luncheon at the NCAA Convention.
- The Councils will discuss 2019 legislation during their April meetings.

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The working group recently requested the Division III Councils consider annual mandatory reporting of student-athlete graduation rates. Currently, it is mandatory for institutions to report student body reporting and institutions may report student-athlete graduation rates on a voluntary basis. Over the past eight years of the reporting cycle, approximately 40 percent of the membership has provided at least one year's student-athlete data. The Working Group analyzed the data and noted that consistently over the entirety of the voluntary reporting that ethnic minority men, and in particular football players, are graduating at a lower rate than their student-athlete peers as well as the general student body. This data trend prompted the working group's request for legislative change. The working group also believes that there are several benefits to mandatory reporting.

- a. A census of valid and reliable data will allow for legally and scientifically defensible evidenced-based best practices.
- b. Enhancement to the Institutional Performance Program (IPP), the free self-assessment and benchmarking tool provided by the NCAA.
- c. Enable the Division III membership to better tell its very positive academic story and highlight its unique philosophy. The current data show that Division III student-athletes graduate at a higher rate than the overall student-body, as well as student-athletes in other NCAA divisions.

The Presidents Council received mixed feedback regarding this proposal during the Presidents Convention luncheon. Concerns included potential administrative burden, as well as incorrectly believing institution specific data would be public. The Councils will discuss potential 2019 legislation during their April meetings.

Identity Initiative

- Division III Week.
 - April 2-8, 2018.
- Education and Promotion.
 - Purchasing website.
 - Social Media.
- Championship Webcasting Enhancements.
- D3SIDA recognition award.
- Special Olympics – 50th Anniversary.
(Summer 2018)



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Division III Week. Next year's Division III week will be April 2-8. (7th annual)

Purchasing Website. On September 11, a new \$500 credit will be provided for each Division III member school (including provisional members), multisport conference and single-sport conference to purchase items on the Division III Purchasing Website. The credit ends August 31. Use the money to buy t-shirts, knit hats, bags, etc...

Social Media. Continue to increase Twitter and Facebook followers. Working on implementing strategies to increase engagements.

Championship webcasting. After membership feedback, staff made the following webcasting enhancements for the 2016-17 championships that will be maintained for the 2017-18 championships:

- Division III player brand (e.g., Division III branding frame around the webcast).
- On-site announcers for all championships.
- A fourth camera for select championships.

All championship enhancements are funded through the Identity Initiative.

D3SIDA recognition. A partnership between Division III and D3SIDA (sports information directors) that recognizes outstanding written or video work three times a year. The winning submission receives a \$1,500 grant to attend the CoSIDA Convention, including Division III Day.

Special Olympics. Summer of 2018 marks the 50th Anniversary of Special Olympics. All institutions and conference offices are encouraged to host an activity and report it via the link on NCAA.org.

Questions