

Division II Priorities 2017-18



INCLUSION INITIATIVES

- ▶ Work with the NCAA Office of Inclusion and the new NCAA Executive Vice President for Inclusion and Human Resources to implement initiatives that support Association-wide goals and priorities.
- ▶ Promote available resources to Division II institutions and conferences.
- ▶ Help the Division II Conference Commissioners Association and Division II Athletics Directors Association identify and implement their own inclusion initiatives.



MEMBERSHIP CENSUS

Conduct the second Membership Census in early 2018. Like the initial census in 2013, this iteration will seek feedback from a range of institutional and conference staff on Division II branding, championships, student-athlete advisory committees, governance processes and structure, diversity and inclusion, and conference and presidential involvement, among other topics. Results will help inform a mid-term assessment of the 2015-21 Division II Strategic Plan and shape future initiatives.



COACHES EDUCATION

Launch the Division II Online Coaches Education program in the spring of 2018 to deliver legislative and health and safety content to Division II coaches. Further, begin discussing how the new online program could replace the current Division II coaches recruiting exam by 2020.

MAKE IT YOURS ACTIVATION

Phase 2 will bring the Division II experience to life in a way that reinforces a sense of pride with stakeholders within the Division II family and resonates with external audiences as well. We will publicly promote the experience Division II institutions create for student-athletes so that audiences fully understand what Division II **IS** versus what it is not.

ACADEMICS

- ▶ Continue reviewing the effects of new progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfer requirements that became effective for the 2016-17 academic year.
- ▶ Continue educating the membership about new initial-eligibility requirements that take effect in the fall of 2018.
- ▶ Review metrics for academic success, improve the accuracy of data collection and strengthen the foundation upon which academic policy decisions are made. The first phase of this project involves data reviews of 25 institutions.
- ▶ Finish reviewing criteria to ensure the Division II Degree-Completion Program meets intended outcomes and is funded appropriately (a revamped iteration of the program is expected to launch in the fall of 2017).



Division II Priorities

2017-18 continued



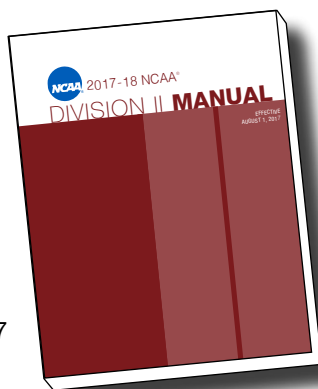
HEALTH AND SAFETY



- ▶ Continue collaborating with the Sport Science Institute to advance identified strategic priorities.
- ▶ A representative working group will recommend ways to increase membership participation via the Injury Surveillance Program so the division can obtain more accurate data upon which to base future decisions affecting student-athlete health and well-being.
- ▶ Partner for a second time with the Gordie Center for Substance Abuse to conduct a Division II-specific APPLE Training Institute September 22-24, 2017, in Reston, Virginia, hosting athletics administrators and student-athlete teams from more than 35 Division II institutions.

CULTURE OF COMPLIANCE

A “think tank” of membership leaders will (1) conduct a comprehensive review of the Division II Manual to identify and address current legislation that does not realistically align with the resources dedicated in Division II; (2) develop tools and resources to help campuses and conferences address challenges and pain points of compliance; (3) encourage development of a shared-responsibility compliance model; and (4) host a summit in December 2017 to strategize next steps and submit recommendations to the governance structure.



CHAMPIONSHIPS

- ▶ Host the first combined men’s and women’s basketball championships at the Sanford Pentagon (shown at right) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, March 19-24, 2018.
- ▶ Join with Divisions I and III for a second time to conduct all three field hockey championships in Louisville, Kentucky, November 17-19, 2017.
- ▶ Review and approval of championships priorities (e.g., officiating fees, participation opportunities, championships experience) for the 2018-21 triennial budget will occur in the fall/winter of 2017.



SAAC INITIATIVES



- ▶ Develop an alumni network.
- ▶ Increase CPR/AED certification across the division.
- ▶ Encourage Division II institutions to use Helper Helper to track their community engagement activities.
- ▶ Support the Sport Science Institute regarding mental health awareness and sexual assault prevention.
- ▶ Foster discussions and progress on social justice issues.
- ▶ Host the first SAAC Super Region Convention November 17-19, 2017, in Washington, D.C., to enhance student-athlete participation in the governance structure and enable student-athletes and administrators to better understand issues affecting Division II student-athletes.
- ▶ Further its “Love2Play” initiative that encourages participants to play a sport because they are passionate about it, rather than playing out of necessity.
- ▶ Further its partnership with Team IMPACT and Make-A-Wish.

