Governance Hot Topics
Winter 2018
Agenda

• Board of Governors updates.
  o Commission on College Basketball: Public Members on BOG.
  o Policy on Campus Sexual Violence Prevention.
  o Esports.
  o Sports wagering.

• Championship updates.
  o Joint basketball championships.

• Sport Science Institute (SSI) strategic priorities.
Agenda

- NCAA Injury Surveillance Program.
- NCAA Transfer Portal.
- 2019 NCAA Convention legislative proposals.
- Division III updates.
  - Ice hockey international certification pilot.
  - New educational resources.
  - 2018-19 Senior Woman Administrator Program and updates.
Agenda

• Working group updates.
  o Sportsmanship and Game Environment – Gameday the DIII Way.
  o LGBTQ.
  o FAR Engagement.

• Division III University.

• Division III Identity initiatives.
Board of Governor – Independent Members

- Association-wide proposal to add five independent, public members to the NCAA BOG. (Commission on College Basketball Reform)
  - Association-wide vote at the 2019 NCAA Convention – Thurs., Jan. 24 at 5:45 p.m. (World Marriott Center hotel)
  - Need 2/3 majority for adoption.
  - BOG sponsors.
  - Presidents Council supports proposal.

In April, the NCAA and the membership received an update from the independent Commission on College Basketball Reform. Based on the report, the NCAA has established eight areas of focus and developed working groups to do an in-depth review and analysis of each area. Seven of the areas are primarily focused on Division I and include: 1.) Nonscholastic basketball; 2.) Recruiting; 3.) NBA; 4.) Enforcement; 5.) Agents and advisors; 6.) Apparel companies; and 7.) Student support.

One working group examined Association-wide issues and in particular, the recommendation to add five independent public voting members to the BOG. The lead public member would also serve on the BOG Executive Committee. At its Aug. meeting, the BOG endorsed the Association-wide recommendations.

Public members not affiliated with the NCAA or member schools will join the NCAA Board of Governors as voting members to bring fresh perspectives and independent judgment. Not only will adding independent members help build public confidence in the NCAA, it represents a governance best practice in the non-profit, higher education and corporate sectors.

Each public member will be nominated by the Board of Governors Executive Committee, approved by the full board and serve a three-year term, which can be renewed once. The Board of Governors Executive Committee includes representation of all three divisions. Specifically, the committee includes the chair and vice chair of the Board of Governors (who must represent different divisions) and the members of the Governors who are the chairs of each divisional presidential body (Division I Board of Directors, Division II Presidents Council, Division III Presidents Council). If the BOG vice-chair is from Division III, the DIII PC chair still is on the executive committee.

The discussion and vote will occur at the 2019 NCAA Convention Thursday, January 24, 2019, immediately after the Plenary Session. The Association Business Session will begin at 5:45 p.m. Eastern time. The change to the board composition is effective Aug. 1, 2019, if adopted by 2/3 majority at the 2019 NCAA Convention.

The Presidents Council believes the BOG expansion represents an important opportunity to restore public confidence in the NCAA’s administration of college basketball and enhance the diversity of the BOG members (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender).
Board of Governor – Independent Members

- Resources available on ncaa.org.
  - Draft Legislative Proposal.
  - Key Points.
  - Questions and Answers.
  - Guidance for Nominations for Independent Members.
  - Overview – Nomination and Selection Process for Independent Members.
A year ago, the BOG 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.

Similar to last year, the policy attestation form will be due May 15. If institutions don’t complete the attestation, they will be listed on ncaa.org and forfeit hosting NCAA championships.
ESports

• At the request of the NCAA Board of Governors, the NCAA continues to understand the current college esports landscape.
• Joint discussion topic at recent BOG meeting.
• Esports programs are rapidly growing on college campuses.
• The presentation given to Division I, II and III leaders provided feedback and data gathered from research led by Intersport.
ESports

• The research will play a key role in better defining the current collegiate esports landscape, including participation levels, leadership structure, and potential areas of growth.

• The NCAA will continue to evaluate how it can best support its members as they pursue and adopt esports programs.

• BOG to revisit topic in January.
Sports Wagering

- U.S. Supreme Court ruling (Spring 2018).
  - NCAA anticipates up to 30 states will legalize wagering in the next 12-24 months. Currently nine states.

- NCAA internal staff working group.
  - Goal is to keep membership informed on sports wagering-related efforts.
  - Protect student-athletes and integrity of games.
  - Review existing legislation and identify needed changes.

- BOG to appoint Association-wide Ad Hoc Committee.

- NCAA Sports Wagering FAQ on nca.org.

As part of its ongoing efforts to keep the membership informed on sports wagering-related efforts to protect student-athlete well-being and ensure the integrity of competition, the NCAA national office has created an internal staff working group to review issues and develop recommendations related to sports wagering. The move comes as legalized sports wagering expands in the United States after a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that cleared the way for states to allow sports betting. The NCAA encourages you to share with student-athletes and staff members the NCAA Sports Wagering FAQ as a tool to ensure understanding of the current sports wagering rules.

Areas of focus are:

1. Education
2. Competition integrity
3. NCAA legislation and policy
4. Information/data management
5. Officiating
6. Political landscape (state and federal)

First meeting of AdHoc Committee – December 2018
Joint Basketball Championships

- Based on recommendations that originated from the men's and women's Division III basketball committees and endorsed by the Championships Committee, the Councils approved one joint championship, per gender, before 2024-25.

- Primary rationale: unequaled opportunity to promote the division.

- Championship season extended for two weeks for 2 teams.

- Cost is approx. $250K per championship. SPFC approved funds from Division III Identity Initiative budget.
Sport Science Institute (SSI)

- Current initiatives and priority areas:
  - Catastrophic Injury and Death Interassociation guidelines.
  - Mental health best practices.
    - Distribution of training kit and planning guide (Summer 2018).

Recent SSI initiatives and priority areas:

Proposed Catastrophic Injury and Death Interassociation guidelines are currently being reviewed by key governance areas as well as CSMAS and other health organizations. The guidelines have a sportsmanship focus; protective equipment section; acclimatization and conditioning; an emergency action plan; and strength and conditioning personnel guidelines. SSI anticipates the BOG endorsing the guidelines in April 2019. If there are any legislative impacts, the membership will vote on at the 2020 Convention. The Management Council noted two key areas: 1.) The role and responsibilities of the strength and conditioning coach; and 2.) a four-day transition period prior to a new season as well as between extended season breaks (e.g. winter break).

In January 2017, the NCAA held a joint interassociation task force with the National Athletics Trainers Association (NATA). Outcomes, expected in the summer of 2019, 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.

The 2017 mental health task force identified 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 best practices. The SSI has released two resources, a Mental Health Interdisciplinary Team Planner for schools, and a Mental Health Workshop Planning Kit for conference offices. These resources were developed in partnership with the task force and designed to assist member schools and conference offices in implementing the Mental Health Best Practices. Several of the educational and resource tools are on the SSI website.
The ISP is a data collection initiative designed to protect the health and safety of student-athletes. Since 1982, athletic trainers have collaborated with the NCAA to create the largest collegiate sports injury database program in the world. Today, the NCAA partners with the Datalys Center to manage the ISP and to inform injury prevention policies and practices at all levels of sport. Your help, through participation, is critical to the success of the ISP and to enhancing student-athlete care.

How will I benefit from participating in the ISP?
• Receive regular access to data that can inform injury prevention practices, risk and personnel management, and medical decision-making.
• Free continuing education credits for athletic trainers who submit the data. (10 – one time credit)
• Contribute to national health and safety policy and sport rules changes.

Obstacles and participation rates: Participation requires a time commitment of approximately 20 additional minutes of data submission per week, per sport. Currently 75% of Division III institutions have the technology to submit the data, but less than 10 percent are participating in the program.

At its July meeting, the Division III Management Council endorsed a strategic plan to increase participation in the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program (ISP). The strategic plan includes: 1.) increased communication of the benefits; 2.) survey of the last year’s participants (39 total institutions) to gather pros and cons of the program; and 3.) request all Division III schools submit data on two sports, of their choosing, during the 2018-19 academic year.
NCAA Transfer Portal

- Newly created portal. On Oct. 15, Division I and II started using for all students looking to transfer.

- Division III will have a read-only access. SSO administrator assigns access via MyApps.

- The portal includes:
  - Student-athlete information.
  - Permission to contact.
  - Student-athlete transfer tracer.

- At its January meeting, the Management Council will discuss if Division III should be more involved with the portal.
### 2019 Convention Legislative Proposals

- **Six proposals.** (One from the membership)
- **Football playing and practice seasons.**
  - 23 days from first contest and one day off for every seven days after the acclimatization period.
  - Amendment-to-Amendment – if first contest on Thursday, count back from Friday.
- **Deregulation of social media.**
  - Allow friending and following PSAs.
  - Allow staff to respond to PSA content.
  - Similar to Divisions I and II current legislation.
- **Full-time enrollment exception.**
  - Extends the existing final term exception.

There are six legislative proposals for the 2019 NCAA Convention. (five governance and one membership sponsored)

**Football playing and practice seasons.** It proposes that the preseason football season begin 23 days from the institution’s first contest with one day off every seven days after the five-day acclimatization period. A survey sent in April to football coaches, ADs, athletic trainers and commissioners showed initial support. Amendment-to-Amendment – if first contest on Thursday, count back from Friday.

**Deregulate social media.** Legislation would permit institutional staff members to connect with (e.g., “friend”, “follow”, etc.) prospective student-athletes on social media platforms. Further, it would allow an institutional staff member to engage in actions that indicate approval of content on social media platforms that were generated by users of the platforms. This proposal would be the same that exists in Divisions I and II. The proposal allows two actions: (1) Notifies the PSA that he or she has received a friend request; and (2) Allows coaches to respond to content produced by the PSA.

**Full-time enrollment exception.** The legislation would extend the existing final term exception to the full-time enrollment requirement to include student-athletes that are carrying (for credit) all courses necessary to complete degree requirements but have an outstanding experiential learning requirement (e.g., student teaching, internship, clinical, capstone project, etc.). A student-athlete that uses this exception would lose all remaining eligibility unless the student completes the credits necessary for graduation and participates in the experiential learning requirement by the next regular academic term. It provides flexibility for student-athletes who are unable to satisfy an experiential learning requirement in the same term in which they complete the other credits necessary for graduation.
2019 Convention Legislative Proposals

• Pre-enrollment educational expenses.
  o Allows individuals to accept educational expenses based on athletics ability prior to collegiate enrollment.

• Student-athlete mandatory graduation rate reporting.
  o Financial aid already identifies student-athlete cohort.
  o Information is private per school. Viewed via IPP.
  o Diversity and Inclusion Working Group will develop evidenced-based best practices.

• Field hockey and soccer acclimatization period. (Membership)
  o Add three days to the preseason.
  o Require acclimatization period – first three days.
  o Limit to two on-field practices after acclimatization.
  o Opposed by governance structure – lack of data.

Pre-enrollment educational expenses. Legislation to permit individuals to accept educational expenses, based on athletics ability, prior to collegiate enrollment from any individual other than an agent, professional sports team/organization or representative of an institution’s athletics interests, provided such expenses are disbursed directly through the recipient’s educational institution. Current standard that precludes PSA from receiving educational benefits is more restrictive than current SAs, who can receive assistance in recognition of high school athletics leadership, ability, participation or performance (e.g. Rotary club grant).

Student-athlete mandatory graduation rate reporting. At the request of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group and as recommended by the Management Council, the Presidents Council sponsored a proposal to require the annual mandatory reporting of student-athlete graduation rates. Currently, it is mandatory for institutions to report student-body rates and institutions may report student-athlete graduation rates on a voluntary basis. Over the past eight years, approximately 40% 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 time period, 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. (1) A census of valid and reliable data will allow for legally and scientifically defensible evidenced-based best practices. (2) Enhancement to the privately viewed Institutional Performance Program (IPP), the free self-assessment and benchmarking tool provided by the NCAA. (3) 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 legislative parameters are the following: 1.) Reporting will be an obligation of membership; 2.) Failure to submit the data will result in championships ineligibility (the same penalty as the submission of the student-body graduation rate reporting) and 3.) The first submission date would be June 2020.

Field hockey and soccer acclimatization period. (Membership proposal) To amend field hockey and soccer preseason practice as follows: (1) to add three additional days to the preseason practice period; (2) to require an acclimatization period during the first three days of the preseason practice period, during which a team would be limited to one single practice session no longer than three hours in duration, followed by a one-hour walk through, with a minimum of three hours of rest required in between the two activities; and (3) to mandate that on every preseason practice day following the three-day acclimatization period, a team would be limited to conducting no more than two on-field practices per day and a maximum of six hours of athletically related activity total during the two practices combined, with a minimum of three hours of rest required in between practice sessions.
Ice Hockey International Certification Pilot

- Pilot includes all Division III men’s and women’s international, first year, ice hockey prospective student-athletes (PSAs).
- Eligibility Center (EC) completed the sports participation reviews. 100% participation.
- The NCAA paid the $135 fee to conduct each review.
- At the end of the ice hockey season, staff will solicit feedback from the pilot participants to determine next steps.

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.

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 during this pilot. Anticipated pilot budget is no more than $10,000.
There are two new Division III specific educational resources that have been distributed to the membership and are also located on NCAA.org.

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.
Senior Woman Administrator (SWA) Updates

- At the membership’s request, this year’s Division III SWA program will occur at the NCAA Inclusion Forum (April 2019).
- Selection process was in Oct. with a final cohort of 30 SWAs selected by late-Nov. Recipients will still receive a one-year membership to Women Leaders in Sport.
- NCAA Office of Inclusion released new resources, located on NCAA.org, as part of an action plan developed based on the findings 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).

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).

SWA new resources: The office of inclusion recently released two new resources as part of an action plan that was developed based on the findings in the Optimizing the Senior Woman Administrator Research Report (2018). The first resource clarifies what exactly the designation is and why it’s important. The second resource provides discussion questions about the designation that include commentary on what success looks like for the designation to be used by athletics directors, conference commissioners, senior woman administrators and other relevant campus leaders.

The NCAA office of inclusion’s 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.
Gameday the DIII Way

• Gameday the DIII Way is a Division III-specific game environment standard to improve fan behavior and overall game environment and experience.

• 2018 NCAA Convention: Official program launched with a training session for Convention delegates.

• To date, 110 facilitators can conduct the 90-minute “Gameday the DIII Way” training on campuses or at conference meetings. Over 3,000 trained, including conference commissioners.

• Resources are available on the Division III Sportsmanship page. Anticipate online modules being available by end of 2018-19 academic year.

The 2018 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, 3,000 individuals have been trained. Resources as well as a list of trained facilitators can be found on ncaa.org. To date, there are over a hundred 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 summer 2019.
The Division III LGBTQ Working Group recently released the LGBTQ Nondiscrimination Policy Guide and mailed an LGBTQ-inclusion promotion kit to every institution and conference office to help member institutions and conferences establish and maintain welcoming environments on their campuses. The promotion kit includes the initiative’s "ONETEAM" logo. Institutions and conference offices are encouraged to use the #d3oneteam hashtag when posting photos and comments on their social media platforms. During the 2018-19 academic year, the working group will develop educational programming for coaches (train the trainer) as well as create a celebration event.
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 outcomes include:

a. Develop and release best practices resource by Dec. Shared with the Division III Councils and seeking feedback from FARs at the FARA Fall Meeting.
b. Implement an FAR orientation program at the FARA Fall Meeting. Accepted 30 participants for the inaugural program.
c. Revise FAR Institute to every other year. Hold on years opposite the FAR orientation.
Management Council endorsed the concept of a Division III University – an online, web-based education portal for head coaches.

Staff targeting a release date to coincide with the 2019 NCAA Convention.

The modules will include existing resources, such as:
- Overview of NCAA Division III.
- Student-athlete well-being (mental health and sexual assault prevention, alcohol education).
- Compliance.

Anticipate additional modules in 2019-20.
Identity Initiative

- New Identity videos. Released in August and September.
  - Full length and 30 sec. versions.
- Division III Week - April 1-7, 2019.
- Purchasing website.
- D3SIDA recognition award.
  - Three awards each year ($1,500).
- Special Olympics – 50th Anniversary.
  - 50 for 50th Challenge.

Identity Video. Division III recently released a new Identity Video. The video features student-athletes demonstrating an understanding of the Division III philosophy and sharing with viewers what makes the division unique. Institutions and conference offices can use the three-minute video in multiple ways (for example, recruiting events, the admissions office, board presentations, on streamed events, athletics websites, social media and more). Note that three separate 30-second Identity Initiative videos also will be released by mid-September.

DIII Week. The eighth annual Division III Week will be April 1-7, 2019.

Purchasing Website. On September 10, all institutions and conference offices will receive a new $500 credit to purchase items on the Division III Purchasing Website by August 31, 2019. Gameday the DIII Way and LGBTQ ONETEAM items will be available.

D3SIDA recognition. For the third consecutive year, in October, February and May, SID's may submit stories and videos for the D3SIDA recognition award for best work. Winning submissions receive $1,500 to attend the annual CoSIDA Convention that includes Division III Day.

Special Olympics. This summer marked the 50th Anniversary of Special Olympics. The national Student-athlete Advisory Committee has initiated the 50 for 50th Challenge.” Each institution is challenged to have at least 50 student-athletes participate in a Special Olympics event(s) from Aug. 1, 2018 to Feb. 28, 2019. Institutions should report their Special Olympics participation via the Division III Special Olympics website, D3SpecialOlympics@ncaa.org. All institutions that complete the challenge will receive a prize, and the three institutions with the highest percentage of student-athlete participation will face off in the March 2019 Special Olympics Spotlight Poll. The institution with the most votes in the Spotlight Poll will be declared the champion during the 2019 Division III Week and receive a special grand prize.
Questions