



DIVISION III
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**NCAA DIVISION III
PRESIDENTS AND MANAGEMENT COUNCILS
SUMMARY OF FALL 2023
QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

KEY ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Presidents Council Policies and Procedures / Division III Representative on the NCAA Board of Governors.....	Pages 4 and 5
Presidents Council / Presidents Advisory Group Meeting Debrief.....	Pages 5 and 6
Hardship Waiver Based on Mental Health.....	Pages 9 and 10
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Division III Management Council October 16-17, 2023, Meeting	Division III Presidents Council October 25, 2023, Meeting
ATTENDEES	ATTENDEES
<p>Cheryl Aaron, Wentworth Institute of Technology Pete Bothner, Nazareth College Jessica Brown, North Central College Kate Corcoran, Cabrini University Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference Matt Hill, University of Northwestern–St. Paul Daniele Iaboni, Anna Maria College, SAAC representative Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University (MA) Rob Larson, Luther College Angela Marin, University of Texas at Dallas Betsy Mitchell, California Institute of Technology Keiko Price, Emory University Jim Schmidt, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire [<i>Presidents Council chair</i>] Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University [<i>chair</i>] Bill Stiles, Alvernia University Melinda Treadwell, Keene State University Jim Troha, Juniata College [<i>Presidents Council vice chair</i>] Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Michelle Walsh, Vassar College [<i>vice chair</i>] Lawrence Ward, Babson College Brian Wigley, Shenandoah University</p>	<p>Jeff Abernathy, Alma College Allan Belton, Pacific Lutheran University Marc Camille, Albertus Magnus College Bryan Coker, Maryville College Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College Sue Hasseler, Muskingum University Jack Langan, Cornell College, SAAC representative Richard Lapidus, Fitchburg State University Douglas Lee, Waynesburg University Richanne Mankey, Defiance College Steven Mauro, Alfred State University Troy Paino, University of Mary Washington Jim Schmidt, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire [<i>chair</i>] Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University [<i>Management Council chair</i>] Jim Troha, Juniata College [<i>vice chair</i>] Renee Wachter, University of Wisconsin-Superior Michelle Walsh, Vassar College [<i>Management Council vice chair</i>]</p>
ABSENTEES	ABSENTEES
<p>Sabienea Winston, Geneva College, SAAC representative</p>	<p>Joanne Berger-Sweeney, Trinity College (Connecticut) Hiram Chodosh, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges Berenecia Johnson Eanes, York College (New York) Adaobi Nebuwa, Colby College, SAAC representative Laura Trombley, Southwestern University (Texas)</p>

OTHER PARTICIPANTS	OTHER PARTICIPANTS
Mark Aiken, NCAA Corey Berg, NCAA Gary Brown, NCAA Ben Brownlee, NCAA Adele Burk, New England Small College Athletic Conference (NCAA Pathway Program participant) Doug Chin, Great Northeast Athletic Conference (NCAA Pathway Program participant) Jemma Cota, NCAA Gary DeCastro, NCAA Clint Hangebrauck, NCAA Dr. Brian Hainline, NCAA Eric Hartung, NCAA Doug Healey, NCAA Anthony Holman, NCAA Greg Johnson, NCAA Kevin Lennon, NCAA Louise McCleary, NCAA Gretchen Miron, NCAA Katie Mucci, NCAA Jeff Myers, NCAA John Parsons, NCAA Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA Stephanie Quigg, NCAA Thomas Pritchard, NCAA Bill Regan, NCAA Lisa Rogers, NCAA Chris Spells, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges (NCAA Pathway Program participant) Ali Spungen, NCAA Erin Sullivan, University of Wisconsin-Stout (NCAA Pathway Program participant) Jared Tidemann, NCAA Jerry Vaughn, NCAA Justin Whitaker, NCAA JP Williams, NCAA Megan Wilson, University of Dubuque (NCAA Pathway Program participant) Julie Zike, NCAA	Mark Aiken, NCAA Corey Berg, NCAA Gary Brown, NCAA Jemma Cota, NCAA Michele Forte-Osborne, NCAA Eric Hartung, NCAA Louise McCleary, NCAA Katie Mucci, NCAA Jeff Myers, NCAA Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA Bill Regan, NCAA Lisa Rogers, NCAA Ali Spungen, NCAA Justin Whitaker, NCAA

1. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

October 16-17 Management Council. The meetings were called to order at 8 a.m. Eastern time, October 16; and 8 a.m. Eastern time, October 17. The chair, Holly Sheilley, welcomed the council and reviewed the agenda.

October 25 Presidents Council. The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. Eastern time, October 25. The chair, Jim Schmidt, welcomed the council and reviewed the agenda.

2. REVIEW OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

a. Management Council Meeting – July 17-18, 2023.

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of its July 17-18 in-person meeting.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

b. Presidents Council Videoconference – August 2, 2023.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the summary of its August 2 videoconference.

c. 2023 Committee/Subcommittee Assignments.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council reviewed its 2023 committee assignments.

d. Presidents Council Policies and Procedures.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council amended its policies and procedures to change the method to select the Division III representative to the NCAA Board of Governors. The council, beginning in 2024, will elect that individual at its October meeting instead of during the April meeting, and the representative's two-year term on the board will start and end to coincide with the NCAA Convention in January (to align with the terms of other board members).

e. Division III Representative on the NCAA Board of Governors.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. In accordance with its amended policies and procedures noted above, the council agreed to extend the term of current representative Mary-Beth Cooper through the 2025 NCAA Convention. The council also agreed to elect a new representative during its October 2024 meeting whose term would begin with the close of the 2025 NCAA Convention.

f. Division III Philosophy Statement and Strategic Positioning Platform.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed the division's philosophy statement and strategic positioning platform and referred to these resources during the discussions throughout the agenda.

g. Administrative Committee Reports.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils ratified the Administrative Committee's actions to fill the following governance committee vacancies:

- NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports – one September 2023 vacancy – Dr. Jack Turban, physician, public member.
- NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee – one August 2023 vacancy – Area 4 – Rachana Bhat, assistant director of athletics and senior woman administrator, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- NCAA Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee – one August 2023 vacancy – Area 1 – Michael Harrison, faculty athletics representative, Framingham State University, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.

The councils also ratified the Administrative Committee's action to approve a one-time spend of \$800,000 to implement the championships per diem increase [\$125 (\$55 host)] planned for the 2024-25 championships a year early (i.e., the 2023-24 championships). A review of the current budget and the funds above the mandated reserve indicated that the championships per diem increase planned for the 2024-25 championships could be implemented a year early. The recommendation was based on several factors, including membership surveys indicating a desire to increase per diem, and the fact that the action doesn't impact future budget enhancements, and it supports the Division III governance structure's focus on maximizing the division's budget and reducing the amount above the mandated reserve.

h. Division III Presidents Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting Debrief.

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council debriefed the meeting held the previous evening with the Presidents Advisory Group (PAG), including a review of feedback received during the roundtable discussion on membership identified issues/threats that could potentially impact Division III intercollegiate athletics at this time. Areas identified included decreasing enrollment and financial concerns; the ability for institutions to adequately staff critical areas (e.g., athletic trainers, athletics communications personnel); and opportunities to promote and celebrate the Division III brand by highlighting the quality of the student-athlete experience at Division III institutions.

The meeting with the PAG also included a review of legislation for the 2024 NCAA Convention, updates from the Sport Science Institute, and a presentation from NCAA President Charlie Baker on the NCAA State of Business Review, congressional engagement, and efforts underway to educate and protect student-athletes in the sports wagering space.

Council members noted the increased engagement with the PAG, which aligns with the group charge to engage more presidents and chancellors directly and effectively in governance discussions at the national, conference, and institutional levels. The council also discussed ways to enhance the engagement with the PAG and to distinguish the role and value of the group more clearly. Staff noted that it has started to conduct orientation calls with new members and will continue to conduct annual orientation calls in April to educate incoming PAG members about their duties. Additionally, the PAG will conduct in-person meetings in October and January immediately preceding the Presidents Council in-person meetings, and a videoconference in May/June to update the PAG on agenda items and topics the Presidents Council plans to address during its August videoconference.

3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING DIVISION III.

a. Division III Joint Presidents Council/Management Council Committees or Subcommittees.

(1) Convention Planning Subcommittee.

Management Council. The Convention Planning Subcommittee reported the following programming:

Staff Liaison:
Regan

Council Reps: Bel-
ton, Coker, Corco-
ran, Iaboni, Lee,
Mauro, Sheilley,
Stiles, Wigley

(a) Educational session topics and timing.

- Understanding the work of the Division III Championships Committee; Thursday, Jan. 11, from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m.
- Hosting an NCAA Division III Championship; Thursday, Jan. 11, from 10 to 11 a.m.
- The New Division III Playing Season Process (NADIIIAA-sponsored session); Thursday, Jan. 11, from 1 to 2 p.m.

(b) Issues Forum topics. The council endorsed the following topics the Convention Planning Subcommittee recommended for the membership to discuss during the Issues Forum:

- The work of the Division III Athletic Trainer Working Group.
- Officiating and Sportsmanship.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) Strategic Planning and Finance Committee (SPFC).

(a) Division III Championships Budget Priorities.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils were informed that the Championship Committee is continuing to discuss possible enhancements to the Division III championships as part of the budget recommendations for the 2025 and 2026 fiscal years.

(b) 2022-23 Final Budget and 2023-24 Budget-to-Actuals Report.

Management Council. The council reviewed the final budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as well as budget-to-actuals for 2023-24 through September. As planned to help reduce the amount over the mandated reserve, several championships were over budget.

Presidents Council. The council received this update during its meeting with the Presidents Advisory Group.

(c) Future Budget Projections.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed the budget projections, noting that last year the division spent \$3 million more on championships to enhance the student-athlete experience and \$1.1 million more on Enrichment Fund initiatives. The division also received \$1.3 million in additional revenue from championships.

Staff Liaisons:
Aiken, Hartung,
McCleary, Regan,
Myers

Council Reps:
Abernathy, Berger-
Sweeney, Troha,
Walsh, Ward,
Winston

In Fiscal Year 2023-24, the division will intentionally overspend its budget by approximately \$4.8 million [this includes the \$800,000 one-time spend noted in Item 2-g above to increase per diem a year early, and the \$435,000 previously approved to support one-time Enrichment Fund and championships initiatives (i.e., the division's 50th anniversary, the Enrichment Fund evaluation being conducted by a third-party vendor and broadcasting the Division III Women's Basketball Championship game)]. The goal is to continue to reduce the amount above and beyond the mandated reserve. During its November meeting, the SPFC will discuss additional one-time spend options to continue reducing the excess beyond the mandated reserve.

(d) Championship Broadcasts.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils were provided an update on the NCAA's media rights contracts.

Staff Liaisons:
McCleary, Myers,
Regan

Council Reps:
Coker, Brown,
Sheilley, Trom-
bley, Schmidt,
Ward

(3) Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee.

• **Review of 2024 NCAA Convention Proposals.**

Management Council. The council received an update of the steering subcommittee's review of Convention proposals.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Berg, Higgins

Council Reps:
Aaron, Corco-
ran, Di Camillo,
Larson, Price,
Stiles, Verdugo

(4) Subcommittee for Legislative Relief.

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

b. Division III Committees.

Staff Liaisons:
Peterson-Mylin-
ski, Williams

Council Reps:
Sheilley, Ver-
dugo

(1) Championships Committee.

Management Council. The council received the following updates:

- (a) Women's Ice Hockey Pilot.** The Championships Committee approved a four-year pilot for the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship finals to occur at a predetermined site. Currently, the semifinals and final are held at the campus of the highest seeded eligible team. The pilot will allow the championship finals to occur

at a predetermined site for the 2025 and 2027 championships. The committee based its decision on the feedback gathered from the membership and in the interest of gender equity as it relates to the championship experience and quality of facilities given the men's ice hockey committee conducts its championship at predetermined sites every other year.

- (b) **Membership Feedback to Sport Committees.** The Championships Committee approved a process and feedback instrument for sport committees to use to gather membership feedback when it is considering any proposal to modify the championship date formula that would change the selection/AQ submission date or extend the length of the championship.
- (c) **Budget Priorities.** The committee continued its discussion of potential enhancements to the Division III championships. It developed a strategic framework regarding how to prioritize potential enhancements and narrowed its focus of FY25 and FY26 potential enhancements to increasing per diem, increasing access to championships for all sports including football, and adding (in limited circumstances) flights to separate higher ranked regional teams. The committee will resurvey the membership in late October on those priorities as well as other championships-related principles to inform current and future budget recommendations. The committee expects to finalize its recommendations for the 2025 and 2026 fiscal years at its February meeting.
- (d) **Selection criteria database.** The committee continues to move forward with the potential implementation of a database to aid with the selection of championship brackets. Feedback from sport committees and regional advisory committees has been positive. The committee will continue engaging various membership stakeholders before deciding whether to implement the database for the 2024-25 academic year.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) **Committee on Infractions.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
McVeigh

Council Rep:
DiCamillo

Staff Liaison:
Zike

Council Rep:
Hill

(3) **Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.**

- **Hardship Waiver Based on Mental Health.**

Management Council. The council approved a recommendation from the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for a blanket waiver effective for two years (2023-24 and 2024-25) regarding the medical documentation standards for a hardship waiver based on mental health conditions. The medical documentation are:

Contemporaneous or noncontemporaneous medical documentation from a licensed practitioner qualified to provide mental health services (see [Interassociation Consensus: Mental Health Best Practices](#)) must demonstrate that the student-athlete's mental health issue or condition occurred during the season in question, occurred before completion of the first half of the traditional playing season and prevented the student-athlete from competing in more than one-third of the traditional playing season in that sport for the season being waived.

The process for administering the waivers would follow the current process for applying for a hardship waiver, including any appellate opportunities. This blanket relief does not address all situations and, therefore, it does not preclude institutions from seeking individual relief for their student-athletes that does not satisfy the criteria in this recommendation. During the two-year pilot, conference offices will work with national office staff to collect and submit information to determine if any changes need to be made and if a legislative change is warranted.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung,
Higgins

Council Rep:
Corcoran

(4) **Financial Aid Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
Walters

Council Reps:
Camille,
Marin

(5) **Infractions Appeals Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Berg, Myers,
Turner

Council Rep:
Hill

(6) Interpretations and Legislation Committee.

(a) Incorporation of Official Interpretation.

Management Council. The council approved an incorporation of an official interpretation into legislation that permits an institution that does not require a paid acceptance or financial deposit in response to a written offer of aid or admission to use any form of communication with a prospective student-athlete after January 1 of the prospective student-athlete's senior year of high school and release publicity about a prospective student-athlete who has committed to the institution, provided the institution has received a commitment from the prospective student-athlete that is required of all incoming students.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) Noncontroversial Legislation – Removing Permission to Contact Requirements for Student-Athletes at NAIA Institutions.

Management Council. The council approved, in concept, noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the requirement that an athletics staff member must obtain permission to contact from an NAIA institution prior to having recruiting contact with a student-athlete from an NAIA institution.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(c) Name, Image and Likeness.

Management Council. The council discussed the top NIL issues facing student-athletes in Division III. The council confirmed that a public registry of deals, agent registration and certification, and financial literacy would be beneficial for the division. It also noted that any Division III legislative proposal should appropriately address the unique needs of Division III. The Interpretations and Legislation Committee will discuss this further during its February meeting and is closely monitoring the adoption of new NIL legislation in the other divisions.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hartung, Hig-
gins, Turner

Council Rep:
Stiles

(7) **Membership Committee.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's reports. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
Roe, Mucci

Council Rep:
Bothner

(8) **Nominating Committee.**

Management Council. The council approved the following governance committee appointments:

- a. NCAA Division III Management Council – one January 2024 vacancy – Area 4 – Nicole Piart director of athletics, Lake Forest College, Midwest Conference.
- b. NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee – one January 2024 vacancy – Area 1 – Harry Dumay, president, Elms College, Great Northeast Athletic Conference.
- c. NCAA Division III Membership Committee – reappoint Chris Roekle, commissioner, Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference; and one January 2024 vacancy – Area 3 – Greg Cooper, director of athletics, Heidelberg University, Ohio Athletic Conference.
- d. NCAA Division III Nominating Committee - one immediate vacancy – Area 3 – Devon Hendricks, deputy athletics director, Emory University, University Athletic Association; and one January 2024 vacancy – Area 1 – Kelly Downs, head women's lacrosse coach/student-athlete support services, Worcester State University, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.
- e. NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee – immediate vacancy – Area 3 (replacing Kathleen Brown): William McGinley, financial aid director, Baldwin Wallace University, Ohio Athletic Conference.
- f. NCAA Division III Strategic Planning and Finance Committee – one January 2024 vacancy – Area 2 – Joseph Onderko, commissioner, Presidents' Athletic Conference.

(Note: The council acknowledged three other appointments recommended by the Nominating Committee that were already approved by the Division III Administrative Committee and ratified by the council, as noted in Item 5-b above.)

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Berg, Mucci,
Spungen

Council Reps:
Iaboni, Marin,
Wigley, Winston

(9) **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received a summary of the committee's recent meetings from the SAAC representatives. No action was necessary.

c.

Association-Wide Committees.

Staff Liaisons:
Hubbard, Parsons,
Rohlman

Council Rep:
Walsh

(1) **Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report, noting that many of the key items will be discussed during the report from the Sport Science Institute in Item 8-c below. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Miron, Wallach,
Wiley

Council Rep:
Lamb

(2) **Committee on Women's Athletics.**

Management Council. The committee informed the council that women's wrestling has exceeded the threshold to be eligible for a National Collegiate Championship. In 2022-23, 41 institutions across the three divisions (23 in Division III) fully satisfied requirements for sponsoring the sport. The committee, at its February meeting, will discuss a possible recommendation for the three divisions to introduce/sponsor legislation to begin conducting women's wrestling as a National Collegiate Championship sport in the 2025-26 academic year. The committee has requested additional information regarding the format of the championship and the budget necessary to support the championship before it makes any recommendation.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Miron, Wallach,
Wilson

Council Rep:
Aaron, Lamb

(3) **Joint Committee on Women's Athletics and Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Preston, Loechel,
Register

Council Rep:
Brown

(4) **Honors Committee.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
Hackworth,
Kennedy

Council Rep:
Aaron

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(5) **Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(6) **Playing Rules Oversight Panel.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the panel's most recent reports. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaisons:
O'Barr, Thomas

Council Rep:
Lamb

(7) **Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The council reviewed the committee's report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

Staff Liaison:
Thomas

Council Rep:
Price

(8) **Walter Byers Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The committee had no formal report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

4. **2024 NCAA CONVENTION LEGISLATION.**

a. **Membership-Sponsored Legislation -- Governance Position.**

• **Amendment-to-Amendment Deadline.**

Management Council. The council supported the proposal to change the deadline for sponsors of the original proposal to submit an amendment-to-amendment that increases the modification of the proposal from September 15 to November 1. The council believes the proposal provides flexibility and allows for greater conversation in the process. Additionally, the proposal is consistent with the alternative model currently being discussed within the governance structure.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

b. Proposal Groupings.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils approved the following groupings and order for the 2024 NCAA Convention proposals:

a. Presidents' Grouping.

- Division Membership -- Division III Membership Requirements – Amend the Division III Philosophy Statement.

b. General Grouping.

1. Amendment-To-Amendment Deadline.
2. Division Membership – Division III Membership Requirements – Sports Sponsorship – Reduce Minimum Participants in Tennis from Six to Four.
3. Division Membership – Establishing Stunt as an Emerging Sport for Women.

c. Review of Noncontroversial Legislation Approved by the Management Council.

(1) NC 2024-13 Committees – Committee Membership – Figure 21-2 – Update Women's Rowing Committee Composition.

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation to modify the composition of the NCAA Division III Women's Rowing Committee from six members (one member from each of the four regions plus two at-large positions) to four members (one member from each region).

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(2) NC 2024-14 Committees – Association-Wide Committees – Eliminate Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, noncontroversial legislation to eliminate the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

d. Review of Administrative Regulation Approved by the Management Council

- **AR-2024-1 Executive Regulations – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – In-Region Opponent Competition Requirements – Update Deadlines for In-Region Waiver Requests.**

Management Council. The council approved, in final legislative format, an administrative regulation to amend Bylaw 31.3.2.1 (waiver) to eliminate the current December 31 waiver deadline and implement deadlines of March 1 for fall sports, May 1 for winter sports, and July 1 for spring sports.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

e. Convention registration, logistics and schedules.

Management Council. The council reviewed registration, meeting schedules and logistics for the Convention.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

5. COUNCIL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

- **Presidents Council Appointments.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council approved the following appointments to the NCAA Division III Presidents Council, effective at the end of the 2024 NCAA Convention:

- (a) Suzanne Davis, Greenville University, St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- (b) Anne Harris, Grinnell College, Midwest Conference.
- (c) Marisa Kelly, Suffolk University, Commonwealth Coast Conference.
- (d) Carolyn Lepre, Salisbury University, Coast to Coast Conference.
- (e) Adam Weinberg, Denison University, North Coast Athletic Conference.

6. DIVISION III INITIATIVES AND UPDATES.

- a. Athletic Trainer Working Group.**

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils were advised that the working group has been meeting regularly and has developed and administered a membership survey for Division III athletics directors and head athletic trainers. The results from that survey will be initially reviewed by the working group at its late-October meeting as well as serving as the foundation for a discussion by the membership at the 2024 Convention Division III Issues Forum. The councils emphasized support for and the importance of the group's work.

b. Diversity and Inclusion Working Group.

Management Council. The council reviewed the working group's most recent report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

c. Division III Congressional Advocates.

Management and Presidents Councils. The council received updates from the advocates' August videoconference and the various pieces of federal legislation regarding student-athlete name, image and likeness.

d. Division III Staff Strategic Priorities.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils reviewed and offered feedback on a document detailing and monitoring progress on the Division III national office staff's areas of emphasis and priorities for the 2022-23 academic year based on membership and committee/council feedback.

e. Faculty Athletics Representative Advisory Group.

Management Council. The council reviewed the advisory group's most recent report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

f. Financial and Risk Management Working Group.

Management Council. The council recommended that the Division III Presidents Council approve the process (including the scope, schedule, and desired outcomes) as specified for hiring a third-party vendor to conduct a financial analysis. The council recommended the review as it will identify financial priorities, threats, and opportunities to improve revenue growth, and make recommendations to reduce risk and strengthen the division's overall financial performance. With the current intercollegiate athletics landscape that includes declining enrollments and state and legal threats, the working group believes a financial review, and potential

recommendations, would provide a roadmap for the division to navigate these uncertain times.

Presidents Council. The council approved an allocation of up to \$500,000 to hire a third-party vendor to conduct the financial analysis.

g. LGBTQIA+ Working Group.

Management Council. The council reviewed the working group's most recent report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

h. Management Council Roundtable Discussions.

Management Council. The council discussed the greatest membership identified threats/concerns confronting the Division III membership, and the role the governance structure and national office could have in helping to address them. The council identified declining enrollment and the rising costs of day-to-day operations at Division III institutions as a primary concern, as well as the need to promote the strategic positioning platform more aggressively to external audiences to strengthen the Division III brand. Other issues included staffing concerns, particularly in athletic training and athletics communications, and issues surrounding officiating and sportsmanship.

Presidents Council. The council also conducted a roundtable discussion with the Presidents Advisory Group.

i. Division III Conference Commissioners Association Officiating Update.

Management Council. Council members received updates regarding the status of the national office and DIIICA initiatives to address the officiating crisis (e.g., shortage and retention).

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

j. Sportsmanship.

Management Council. The council reviewed a plan to increase awareness and usage of resources related to sportsmanship, including Gameday the DIII Way. Council members offered feedback on how to enhance the plan and provided insights regarding best practices that are making a difference on their campuses.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

k. Eligibility Center Update.

Management Council. The council received an update regarding the initial year of Division III international prospective student-athletes having their amateurism certification conducted by the NCAA Eligibility Center. (Legislation adopted at the 2022 NCAA Convention authorized the Eligibility Center to certify international student-athletes.)

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

l. Division III Branding, Promotions and Social Media.

Management Council. The council received an update on initiatives and resources to support the division's 50th anniversary in 2023-24. Staff also noted efforts to provide on-site social media coordinators for all Division III championships.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

m. Technology Users Group.

Management Council. The council reviewed the report. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

n. Feedback from Conference Meetings.

Management Council. Council members received updates on outreach to various conferences and reviewed the process to ensure optimum engagement. The council agreed to discontinue use of the conference contact form. The council will instead use current communication with the Division III membership to circulate the council roster to encourage greater communication.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

8. ASSOCIATION-WIDE UPDATES AND ISSUES.

a. Association Policy and Governance Update.

Management Council. Kevin Lennon, who recently was appointed as senior vice president for policy and governance, joined the council to discuss his role overseeing policy and governance for all three divisions and assisting in the implementation of the operating plan outlined by NCAA President Charlie Baker.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

b. Board of Governors Updates.

Management Council. The council reviewed the reports from the board's August meetings, noting the resources being developed to help the NCAA membership take advantage of the post-eligibility injury insurance coverage for student-athletes beginning August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. The council received a Board of Governors update during its meeting with the Presidents Advisory Group.

c. Sport Science Institute (SSI) Updates.

Management and Presidents Councils. NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brian Hainline updated the councils on the following key topics:

- (1) **Cannabinoid Policy.** The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS), based on feedback from the NCAA Board of Governors, is recommending that each division pursue legislation to remove cannabinoids from the list of NCAA banned-drug classes and have the NCAA develop robust educational resources for student-athletes and institutions regarding the ramifications of cannabis use. The councils will consider this recommendation at their January meetings. The councils also emphasized the need for educational resources.
- (2) **Mental Health Advisory Group.** The councils received an update regarding the process to socialize and review the recommended changes to the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices. The councils reviewed a working draft and provided feedback and potential amendments.
- (3) **Concussion Safety.** The CSMAS approved changes to the Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist based on feedback from the Concussion Safety Advisory group. The changes are scheduled to become effective January 2024.
- (4) **Athletic Trainers.** The CSMAS issued a report from a June meeting with representatives from athletic training groups, membership representatives and national office staff. Additionally, this report will be part of a 2024 NCAA Convention Association-wide educational session.
- (5) **Transgender Student-Athlete Participation.** The CSMAS will continue to discuss the current transgender student-athlete participation policy and will make a recommendation to the Board of Governors for its January meeting.

d. Sports Wagering Update.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received an update regarding the new student-athlete sport wagering e-learning module and other national office initiatives concerning sports wagering. No action was necessary.

e. Litigation Update.

Management and Presidents Councils. The councils received a litigation update from staff. No action was necessary.

f. Governmental Relations Report.

Management and Presidents Councils. The council received an update from the NCAA governmental relations staff. No action was necessary.

9. *ADJOURNMENT.*

Management Council. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Eastern time on October 16 and at 11:26 a.m. Eastern time on October 17.

Presidents Council. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m. Eastern time October 25