



Faculty Athletics Representative Association Statement Related to Faculty Athletics Representative and the NCAA Constitution

This statement was drafted and approved by the Faculty Athletics Representative Association with input from the Executive Leadership Team and association-wide FARs at the FARA Annual Meeting.

The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) is appointed by the President or Chancellor, from amongst the institution's faculty or administrators who hold faculty rank. The FAR represents the institution and its faculty in the institution's relationships with the NCAA and, if appropriate, the conference. Each institution has the flexibility to assign duties to the FAR that best serve the needs of their institution and student-athletes.

Article 2 of the new NCAA Constitution identifies the FAR as “the principal point of contact” for student-athletes to report issues relating to their health and well-being, but it does not make the FAR the exclusive or sole point of contact.

Each institution retains the responsibility for fostering and monitoring student-athlete well-being, and the FAR is positioned to play a unique role as a person outside of the athletics department. At each institution, there should be a deliberate plan to provide reporting channels for student-athlete issues and the FAR role within that plan should be clear. Resources such as time, training, accessibility to student-athletes and administrative support must be provided commensurate with the institution’s expectations of the FAR.

Article 2 also specifies “The faculty athletics representative, in this capacity, shall report directly to the member institution’s president or chancellor.” This does not mandate a change in the reporting lines and reporting structures that best fit each institution. However, it does require that the President or Chancellor make themselves accessible to the FAR related to student-athlete reports of actions, activities, or behaviors by anyone associated with the institution’s athletics program that are inconsistent with student-athlete health and well-being.

The identification of a role for the FAR in student-athlete reporting should in no way supplant or supersede the FAR role in promoting student-athlete success in the classroom, in athletics and in the community.



NCAA Q&A Related to Interpretation of the Constitution

These answers were provided by NCAA Staff, and endorsed for all three divisions.

- Question** Does the current constitution clarify the FAR’s role in promoting student-athlete success in the classroom, in athletics and the community by striking a balance between academic excellence, athletics competition and social growth?
- Answer** *The constitution adopted at the 2022 NCAA convention did not articulate the FAR’s role in promoting student-athlete success in the classroom, in athletics and in the community. Rather, like the prior constitution, the list of duties of the FAR is determined by the member institution (NCAA Division I Bylaw 8.1.3, NCAA Division II Bylaw 7.3.1.1.4 and NCAA Division III Bylaw 20.14.3).*
- Question** Is the FAR the exclusive point of contact for whom a student-athlete reports any action, activity, or behavior by anyone associated with the athletics programs relating to student-athlete health and well-being inconsistent with the constitution’s general principle of student-athlete health and well-being?
- Answer** *The FAR is a principal point of contact but does not have to be the exclusive point of contact. Institutions should continue to follow their current systems while adding the FAR as an available point of contact.*

Question Must the FAR report directly to the member institution's president or chancellor? Or must the FAR report directly to the member institution's president or chancellor only when student-athlete health and well-being as expressed in the constitution is involved?

Answer *The new constitution does not require an institution to change the reporting lines for the FAR. It indicates that the FAR shall report directly to the institution's president or chancellor when a student-athlete reports action, activity, or behavior by anyone associated with the athletics program inconsistent with the constitution's principle of student-athlete health and well-being. Otherwise, the reporting lines of the FAR are established at the discretion of the member institution.*