



Constitution

of the

Faculty Athletics Representatives Association

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Mission.

The mission of the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA) is as follows:

1. To clarify and articulate the role of the faculty athletics representative (FAR) on individual campuses;
2. To enhance the level of institutional support provided to FARs in their efforts to ensure academic integrity, institutional control and student-athlete welfare;
3. To provide orientation and professional development programs for FARs; and
4. To offer a collective voice for FARs on intercollegiate athletics issues of national significance.

Guiding Principles.

1. We believe that intercollegiate athletics is an integral part of the mission of the academic institution. We acknowledge the benefits of intercollegiate athletics, and we believe that intercollegiate athletics can bring many positive attributes to the collegiate community.
2. We believe that the well-being of the student-athlete is an essential concern of the university. We take seriously the FAR's responsibility to ensure that student-athletes are supported properly and treated fairly.
3. We believe that institutional academic integrity is essential. It is the FARs' role to ensure that the academic institution establishes and maintains the appropriate balance between academics and intercollegiate athletics.
4. We believe that conference academic integrity is essential. It is the FARs' role to advocate the appropriate emphasis on academics in the conference.
5. We believe that academic integrity must be a priority within the NCAA. It is FARA's role to advocate the appropriate emphasis on academics in NCAA discussions, NCAA committee decisions and NCAA member legislation.
6. We believe that FARA is the collective voice of FARs in all NCAA divisions. It is FARA's role to advocate for FARs and to represent their concerns at the national level.

Bylaws.

Article One – Name.

The name of this organization shall be Faculty Athletics Representatives Association, herein called FARA.

Article Two - Purposes.

The purposes of FARA are as follows:

1. To address academic issues affecting the integrity of intercollegiate athletics. Among such issues are any that significantly affect positively or negatively a student-athlete's commitment or opportunity to achieve a baccalaureate degree.
2. To provide a means by which FARs may express their views and concerns about intercollegiate athletics.
3. To study and evaluate proposed NCAA legislation, and to inform FARA members of the nature and implications of proposals that are of concern to those members.
4. To inform other constituencies about FARA's position on proposed NCAA legislation and issues affecting the integrity of intercollegiate athletics.
5. To disseminate to FARA members any information that should be of interest to them.
6. To assist FARA members in promoting the NCAA's fundamental principles, and constitutional requirements, related to FARs and their institutions. These include, but are not limited to, those laid out in Article 1 of the NCAA's Constitution:
 - a. The primacy of the academic experience.
 - b. The collegiate student-athlete model.
 - c. Integrity and sportsmanship.
 - d. Student-athlete well-being.
 - e. Institutional control.
 - f. Diversity, education and inclusion.
 - g. Gender equity.
 - h. Recruiting standards.

In brief, FARA will support FARs in their efforts to uphold a clear line of demarcation:

Member institutions' athletics programs are designed to be an integral part of the educational program. The student-athlete is considered an integral part of the student-body, thus maintaining a clear line of demarcation between college athletics and professional sports. (Note, this appears in different locations, but in each division's manual).

7. To hold regular and special meetings as means of implementing the above purposes and conducting the business of FARA.
8. To encourage all FARs to attend educational meetings such as the FARA Annual Meeting, NCAA Regional Rules Seminars, NCAA Convention and other NCAA-sponsored educational opportunities.

Article Three – Membership.

1. **Eligibility.** All FARs of institutional members of the NCAA are members of FARA. All FARs of provisional institutions are nonvoting members of FARA.
2. **Conditions of Membership.** Members will remain in good standing as long as they occupy the position of institutional FAR.

Article Four – Officers.

Officers of FARA. The officers of FARA will be president, president elect, immediate past president, Division I vice president, Division II vice president, Division III vice president and secretary. The term of offices of president, president elect, and immediate past president shall be one year. Incumbents may not serve consecutive terms in these positions. The term of office for divisional vice presidents is one year. Vice presidents may stand for re-election to serve one additional term in office. The term of office for secretary is two years. Incumbents may stand for re-election to additional terms.

- **Duties of Officers:**
 - a. **President.** The president is the chief executive officer of FARA and chairperson of the Executive Committee. They will be responsible for the agenda for the FARA Annual Meeting, the FARA programming at the NCAA Convention, and planning and administering the affairs of FARA in a way that furthers the mission and purposes of the organization. They will, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, make any appointments called for by these bylaws or other appointments considered necessary to conduct the affairs of FARA. The president will be a member of the Nominating Committee and serve as chair. At the conclusion of their term as president, they will assume the role of immediate past

president. If for any reason the president is unable to continue in office, the president pro tem, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall determine who will complete the term of the vacated presidency.

- b. President elect. The president elect will serve as a general assistant to the president, carrying out such duties as the president may assign him or her. They will serve as a member of the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee. They will serve as president pro tem in case of the president's absence. At the conclusion of their term as president elect, they will assume the role of president.
- c. Divisional vice presidents. The divisional vice presidents will have responsibility for planning FARA meetings based on recommendations of the president, president elect and the Executive Committee. They will serve as members of the Executive Committee and represent the interests of their respective divisions in all aspects of their duties.
- d. Secretary. The secretary shall be responsible for recording minutes of the FARA Executive Committee and business meetings, assembling and coordinating materials for possible publication in the FARA Voice. The secretary will serve as a member of the Executive Committee.
- e. Immediate past president. The immediate past president will serve as a member of the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee. They will assist the president by performing duties assigned by the president. They will serve as president pro tem in case of the president and president elect's absence or inability to serve.

Article Five – Executive Committee.

1. **Composition.** The Executive Committee will consist of 17 voting members: the officers of FARA and 10 other members. The 10 additional members will consist of one from a Division I Subdivision institution; two from Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) institutions; one from a Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) institution; three from Division II institutions; and three from Division III institutions.
2. **Duties of the Executive Committee:**
 - The Executive Committee will be empowered to conduct business of FARA. The president of FARA will preside at meetings of the Executive Committee.
3. **Duties of the Representatives.**
 - a. Divisional representatives will have responsibility for assisting their respective vice president in planning the annual meeting and will serve as a member of the

Executive Committee and represent interests of their respective division in all aspects of their duties.

- b. NCAA Division I Board of Directors Representative: The Executive Committee shall appoint a member of the Executive Committee to serve on the Board of Directors. Service on the Board may be concurrent with any elected FARA Executive Committee position. In the event that the term of office on the Board extends beyond the term of office on the FARA Executive Committee, the Board representative will remain ex-officio, nonvoting member of the FARA Executive Committee until their term expires on the Board.
4. Terms of office. The term of office on the Executive Committee for the officers shall coincide with the terms of their elected position. The term of office for the 10 divisional representatives shall be three (3) years, incumbents may not stand for re-election except as provided for in Article 5, No. 5. Terms will be staggered so that continuity can be maintained. In the case where revision of these bylaws is approved by the membership, the Executive Committee may temporarily alter terms to ensure continuity.
5. In the case of an Executive Committee member changing institutions or an institution represented by a committee member changing classification, that Executive Committee member may continue to serve on the Executive Committee so long as they remain FARA members and continue to meet the criteria of the position to which they was elected.
6. Vacancies. Unanticipated vacancies on the Executive Committee may be filled by an emergency appointment at the discretion of the president or president pro tem with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The appointed individual will serve for the duration of the vacated term. The person appointed will be eligible for election to a subsequent full term, except for the president elect.

Article Six - Executive Committee Appointments.

(Revised November 2020)

1. Nominating Committee.
 - a. Members: The president, president elect, immediate past president, and the three divisional vice presidents will serve as the Nominating Committee. The president will chair this committee.
 - b. The committee will solicit nominations, including self-nominations, from the membership. The solicitation of nominations will begin February 1 and close June 15. Nominees must submit an online nomination form by June 15.
 - c. All nominees must be FARA members.

2. Selection of candidates.
 - a. All FARA Executive Committee representatives within their respective division (I, II, and III) make up the three Divisional Selection Committees.
 - b. Each Divisional Selection Committee reviews the respective divisional slate of nominees and makes recommendations to the Nominating Committee by July 15. The Divisional Selection Committees consider the following criteria when selecting candidates (in no order):
 - (1) Appropriate experience of the nominees;
 - (2) Conference diversity;
 - (3) Gender diversity;
 - (4) Ethnic diversity;
 - (5) Balanced geographic representation;
 - (6) Institutional diversity; and
 - (7) Bylaw requirements for divisional representation, if applicable (Division I).
 - c. The Nominating Committee approves the recommendations in August. After approval by the Nominating Committee, the recommendations are then forwarded to the FARA Executive Committee for final approval, with selection and nonselection notifications completed thereafter, but not later than August 31.
3. Selection of FARA Executive Committee Officers.
 - a. Candidates for the president elect, secretary, and divisional vice presidents must be current members of the FARA Executive Committee or have previously served on the Executive Committee.
 - b. President elect and secretary: The selection committee for the president elect and secretary will consist of all current members of the Executive Committee, except those individuals nominated for a position. Selection will occur with consideration of:
 - (1) Divisional balance in the presidency and on the Executive Committee; and
 - (2) Appropriate experience of the nominees.
 - c. Divisional vice presidents: The selection committees for each divisional vice president will consist of the current Executive Committee representatives from the

relevant division. Current Executive Committee representatives nominated for the vice president position will be recused. Selection will occur with consideration of the appropriate experience of the nominees.

- d. After approval by the Nominating Committee, the recommendations are then forwarded to the FARA Executive Committee for final approval, with selection and nonselection notifications completed thereafter, but not later than August 31.
4. Commencement of terms: Incoming Executive Committee members' terms will begin at the close of the FARA Annual Meeting.

Article Seven – Meetings.

1. FARA may conduct a business meeting annually in conjunction with the FARA Annual Meeting. An additional meeting may be conducted at the NCAA Convention if deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. FARA may also meet at other times if the Executive Committee deems such meetings to be necessary. All meetings are chaired by the president.
2. The Executive Committee meets annually in the spring and in conjunction with the FARA Annual Meeting, the NCAA Convention, and other times as the president or a majority of the Executive Committee shall deem necessary.

Article Eight – Committees.

In addition to the Executive and Nominating committees (Articles Five and Six), the following shall be the standing committees of FARA:

1. Legislative Review Committees (LRC) membership and duties.
 - a. The Division I LRC shall be composed of a minimum of four (4) members, one from a Division I Subdivision institution, two from FBS institutions and one from an FCS institution. The members shall be appointed by the Division I vice president to a one-year renewable term. The Division I vice president will designate one (1) member to serve as the chair of the committee.
 - b. The Division II and Division III LRCs shall each be composed of a minimum of four (4) members. The members shall be appointed by the divisional vice president to a one-year renewable term. The divisional vice president will designate one (1) member to serve as the chair of each committee.

- c. Duties and responsibilities:
 - (1) To review potential and proposed amendments to the NCAA Constitution or Operating Bylaws, for their division, whenever deemed appropriate, but no less than once during an academic year;
 - (2) To report on such proposed changes to the FARA membership at the FARA Annual Meeting for their division; and
 - (3) Provide recommendations as to FARA's position regarding proposed amendments, which will then be taken up by the assembled FARs for approval or disapproval for their division.
2. Communications Committee membership and duties.
 - a. This committee will be appointed by the president of FARA with recommendation from the Executive Committee and shall include one member of the Executive Committee from each division, and the FARA secretary. The president shall appoint the chair of the committee. Other FARs, either from the Executive Committee, or non-Executive Committee members, may be appointed to the committee by the FARA president.
 - b. The Communications Committee shall appoint the editor of the FARA Voice in consultation with the FARA president and the Executive Committee and will provide general oversight to the FARA Voice, the FARA website and any other means of FARA communications. The editor of the FARA Voice shall be a member of the FARA Executive Committee.
 3. Honors and Awards Committee membership and duties.
 - a. This committee shall include the FARA past president, the FARA president, the FARA president elect, and the divisional vice presidents.
 - b. The duties of the committee include: (1) An annual development of honors and awards nominations; and (2) Annual review and referral of honors and awards recipients for approval by the FARA Executive Committee.
 - (1) The David Knight Award for Outstanding Service to FARA.
 - Recipients will be chosen on the basis of their extraordinary contributions to FARA and need not be members of FARA. This award is not required to be given each year.

- (2) Divisional FAR of the Year Award.
 - This award will recognize significant contributions by individuals to their respective divisions.
- (3) Newcomer of the Year Award.
 - This award will be presented on a divisional basis to a new FAR who has contributed significantly to their division.

All honors and awards will be presented at the FARA Annual Meeting. Additional honors and awards may be created with the approval of the FARA Executive Committee.

In addition to standing committees, ad hoc committees may also exist as part of FARA. Such committees will be appointed on an as-needed basis by the president of FARA, with the cooperation and advice of the Executive Committee. Selection of the committee members, terms of service, and duties and responsibilities of ad hoc committees will be determined by the president at the time of such committee's creation.

Article Nine – Parliamentary Authority.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern FARA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules this organization adopts. The president, with the consent of the Executive Committee, may appoint a parliamentarian on an as-needed basis.

Article Ten – Resolutions.

Any member of FARA may offer a resolution to be considered at any meeting of the association provided that the resolution is submitted in writing to the president at least one week prior to the Executive Committee meeting at the FARA Annual Meeting or at the NCAA Convention. The president, in consultation with the Executive Committee, will determine whether the resolution is germane to the nature and purposes of FARA and consequently appropriate for consideration by the association.

Article Eleven – Amendment of Bylaws.

1. Proposed amendments accompanied by the written support of at least five (5) members may be submitted to the president in writing. The Executive Committee can also propose amendments.

2. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the membership at least 30 days before the opening day of the business meeting at which the amendment is to be considered for adoption.
3. Amendments to proposed amendments may be presented from the floor of the business meeting at which the proposed amendments are considered. Approval of amendments to proposed amendments shall require a simple majority of the members present and voting.
4. Approval of amendments shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and voting.

Faculty Athletics Representatives Association

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