



NCAA Division I Transformation Committee Report

Part I

November 17, 2023

Transformation Committee - Areas of Focus

Modernizing our
rulebook.

Achieving fair and
timely outcomes in
infractions.

Fair regulation of
transfers.

Providing better
models for student-
athlete support.

Establishing
minimum standards
for
DI membership.



Holistic Model

Holistic Model of Benefits for Student-Athletes

- Requires all DI schools to provide medical coverage for athletically related injuries for a minimum of two years following graduation or completion of athletics experience.
 - Post participation policy will be available through the NCAA.
- Requires all DI schools to provide out-of-pocket medical expenses.
- Requires all DI schools to attest they provide student-athletes with consensus-based care, education and services (e.g., Interassociation Mental Health Best Practices).
- Requires all DI schools to complete a post incident review of circumstances surrounding any catastrophic injury or death.

Holistic Model of Benefits for Student-Athletes, cont.

- Requires all DI schools to offer degree-completion funds to any student-athlete within 10 years of separation who was on full scholarship.
- Requires all DI schools to provide the current scholarship protections previously mandated for autonomy conferences.
- Requires all DI schools to attest that they provide academic support services consistent with current NCAA legislation.

Holistic Model of Benefits for Student-Athletes, cont.

- Requires all DI schools to attest that they provide career counseling and life skills programming that includes, at a minimum, the following modules: mental health, strength and conditioning, nutrition, name, image and likeness, financial literacy, transfer requirements, career preparation, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, and sexual violence prevention.



Health and Safety Subgroup

Health and Safety Subgroup

- The subgroup received four referrals regarding the following Transformation Committee recommendations:
 1. Empowerment of the athletics health care administrator;
 2. Review of physical and mental health, safety and performance support services;
 3. Coverage of athletics activity; and
 4. Mental health.
- With the adoption of the holistic model, the subgroup's work on the following referral is considered complete:
 - Mental health.

Empowerment of the AHCA

- NCAA Division I Council adopted legislation to specify that an active institution must establish policies and procedures to empower the athletics health care administrator with the authority to oversee the institution's athletics health care administration and delivery, as specified.

Effective date. August 1, 2024.

- The Division I governance structure also validated the importance of the creation of an AHCA professional organization to build culture and legitimize the responsibilities of the designation.
- The subgroup noted that additional work is necessary, including the consideration of financial support and possible partnership with a third-party entity, to establish a meaningful AHCA professional organization. This work should be referred to the appropriate governing body.

Review of Support Services

- Council adopted legislation to specify that an active institution shall attest annually to completing a comprehensive review of its mental and physical health, safety and performance support services (e.g., legislative and policy requirements, best practice considerations) at least once every four years.

Effective date. August 1, 2024.

Coverage of Athletics Activity

- Council supported the following items to address the Transformation Committee's recommendation related to the coverage of athletics activity:
 - a. That the NCAA Division I Board of Directors consider work on the coverage of athletics activity complete based on the adoption of the holistic model, which requires schools to attest to following consensus-based guidance, including Independent Medical Care Best Practice and Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes; and
 - b. That the Division I governance structure validate the importance and urgency of NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports continuing to address the current athletic trainer shortage and request that an update regarding this shortage and work being done to address the issue be provided to the Board of Directors during its August meeting.

Coverage of Athletics Activity, cont.

- This approach aligns with the Transformation Committee's intent since the adoption of the holistic model will require schools to attest to providing appropriate coverage of athletics activity consistent with best practices. The recommendations also acknowledge the existence of other requirements that address health care and health emergencies, for example:
 - a. NCAA Bylaw 17.1.6, which requires school staff with certification in first aid, CPR and AED use to be present any time a student-athlete participates in physical, countable athletically related activity.
 - b. Association-wide policy that requires a school to have an emergency action plan for all venues in which practices or competition are conducted.

Coverage of Athletics Activity, cont.

- The subgroup noted that the difficulty in legislatively implementing the concept as recommended due to a variety of factors, including but not limited to, a shortage of athletic trainers and the varying coverage strategies used by schools. While the subgroup supported the intent of the recommendation, it was unclear if it would have the intended effect on the student-athlete experience.
- The subgroup recommended that the NCAA continue to work with strategic partners to identify strategies to address athletics health care staffing challenges, which may do more to improve the student-athlete experience.

Coverage of Athletics Activity, cont.

- Ultimately, the subgroup preferred a model that would require schools to attest to providing athletics coverage consistent with best practices for preventing catastrophic injury and death. This model provides the most flexibility and relies on best practices that are reviewed and updated by experts.
- An attestation model is also consistent with the recommended approach to other health and safety requirements in the holistic model, which has been supported and adopted by the Board of Directors.



Discussion and Questions



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