

Working With Your Campus SAAC

What is SAAC?

Student-athletes have a voice in the NCAA through advisory committees at the campus, conference, and national level. Each committee is made up of student-athletes assembled to provide insight on the student-athlete experience and offer input on the rules, regulations and policies that affect student-athletes' lives on campus.

History of SAAC

- An Association-wide SAAC was adopted at the 1989 NCAA Convention and was formed primarily to review and offer student-athlete input on NCAA activities and proposed legislation that affected student-athlete welfare.
- The initial national committee was comprised of student-athletes from all membership divisions for the purpose of ensuring that the student-athlete voice was one that accounted for the myriad of educational and athletics experiences of both female and male student-athletes at all NCAA member institutions.
- In August 1997, the NCAA federated along divisional lines. The federation caused the SAAC to expand to three SAACs representing NCAA Divisions I, II and III.

Function of the NCAA National SAAC:

- Generate a student-athlete voice within the NCAA structure.
- Solicit student-athlete response to proposed NCAA legislation.
- Recommend potential NCAA legislation.
- Review, react and comment to the governance structure on legislation, activities and subjects of interest.
- Actively participate in the administrative process of athletics programs and the NCAA.
- Promote a positive student-athlete image.

Function of the Campus SAAC

- Promote communication between athletics administration and student-athletes.
- Disseminate information.
- Provide feedback and insight into athletics department issues.
- Generate a student-athlete voice within the campus athletics department formulation of policies.
- Build a sense of community within the athletics program involving all athletics teams.
- Solicit student-athlete responses to proposed conference and NCAA legislation.
- Organize community service efforts.
- Create a vehicle for student-athlete representation on campus-wide committees (e.g., student government).
- Promote a positive student-athlete image on campus.

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Division I SAAC

1. Reports to the Division I Leadership Council and attends the meetings
2. Sit on NCAA Cabinets and committees within the Governance Structure
3. One SAAC member serves on the NCAA Board of Directors
4. All have votes

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Division II SAAC

1. Affects the legislative process via an annual summit held each July with the Division II Management Council.
2. Also, committee members participate in the NCAA Convention each January where they express the student-athlete voice on collective concerns regarding proposed Division II legislation.
3. Division II national SAAC members actively take the lead in addressing issues facing Division II student-athletes such as the development of campus and conference SAACs, Title IX education, faculty/student-athlete relations and championships enhancements.

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Division III

1. Two student-athletes from the committee are voting members on the Division III Management Council.

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Conference SAAC

- Student-athletes from each conference member institution is nominated to be a part of the Conference SAAC
- They are asked to discuss, propose and vote on NCAA Legislation
- The conference SAAC discuss conference rules and policies that affect the conference championship

Working with Your Campus SAAC Best Practices

- Educate your rep and campus SAAC on issues in your sport
- The rep and campus SAAC becomes another voice for you nationally and on campus
- Establish a relationship and line of communication with your campus SAAC – help them understand the needs of your program; to understand issues related to the long-term good of the sport; assisting in understanding issues that affect the sport's highest levels of competition
- Set up a time for your SAAC rep to meet with you
- Help your SAAC Rep identify the issues that affect your sport

Working with Your Campus SAAC Best Practices

- Be a part of the nomination process if you are not
- Share with your SAAC rep what happens in these meetings so they are better informed on how legislation effects your program
- If you are on an NCAA Committee share the issues discussed there
- Look for ways to support your campus SAAC

Why should I do this?



- The landscape of College Athletics is changing and the NCAA membership and campus leaders are looking to the student-athletes to help navigate the changes by giving them a voice
- This is a development opportunity for student-athletes that allows them to grow as a leader and give back
- Another avenue to be engaged and part of the governance structure

How are You Involved With Your SAAC?



Questions?

