

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL ISSUES COMMITTEE
MAY 24, 2011, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Men's Basketball Issues Updates.** The NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Issues Committee received reports/updates regarding the following items:
 - a. The operation of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship; specifically, information related to tournament expansion and the television format.
 - b. The operation of Men's College Basketball Officiating, LLC.
 - c. The NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee and NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee sportsmanship initiative. It was reported that as a result of focused efforts by coaches, game officials and institutional administrators, progress has been made in the conduct of coaches when communicating with referees and adherence to bench decorum. It was noted that there remains room for further improvement, particularly in the area of vulgar and/or demeaning comments made by coaches towards student-athletes. The group agreed that this type of conduct should be addressed by institutions and conferences (as opposed to game officials) and supported the development of educational videos and best practices to provide such assistance.
 - d. Two-year college academic concepts; specifically, enhanced academic standards for both qualifiers and nonqualifiers as well as the establishment of a year of academic readiness.
 - e. Enforcement group initiatives, both internal and external.
2. **Division I Men's Basketball Recruiting Model.** The committee received an update regarding the progress of the NCAA Division I Leadership Council in the development of a new Division I men's basketball recruiting model. The group engaged in a discussion and expressed support for the "big picture" concepts that have currently been identified by the Leadership Council, including earlier/increased access between coaches and prospective student-athletes (and their parents/legal guardians), modification of the recruiting calendar that includes a decrease in the July evaluation period and additional opportunities to evaluate certified nonscholastic activities during April, a flexible recruiting calendar with the same number of recruiting days, deregulation and/or simplification of methods of

communication with prospects(and their parents /legal guardians) and a moratorium on further changes until the new model can be appropriately evaluated over a period of time.

3. Legislative Issues.

- a. The committee received an overview of 2010-11 legislative proposals impacting men's basketball. The group expressed some concern regarding the adoption of NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2010-24, the proposal to move the date for withdrawal from the NBA draft to the day before the initial date for signing the spring National Letter of Intent (NLI). Specific concerns identified included the potential inability of student-athletes to gather all necessary information to make an informed decision, the disruption of team continuity during the latter part of the regular season/NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship tournament and the increased media attention during the championship. The committee also discussed Proposal No. 2010-16-C and related amendments, which would establish limitations on noncoaching basketball-specific personnel and was tabled by the NCAA Division I Legislative Council in April, and expressed support for the Legislative Council's suggestion to the NCAA Division I Recruiting and Athletics Personnel Issues Cabinet to consider alternatives that address limits only on bench personnel (during practice and competition).
- b. The committee reviewed NCAA Bylaws 17.3.5.1 and 17.3.5.1.1 regarding qualifying regular-season multiple-team events and discussed the various event formats , but agreed not to recommend any changes to the current legislation.
- c. The committee reviewed Bylaw 17.3.2.2, the new preseason practice start date/rule governing Division I women's basketball and requested that the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) solicit feedback from its coaching community as to whether there is merit in proposing a similar rule in men's basketball.

- 4. Division I Basketball Event Certification Issues.** The committee received a report regarding the criteria for the application of the adjoining-state restrictions of the basketball event certification process and the process for requesting a waiver of the adjoining-state rule. The committee was requested to consider a modification to the NCAA Division I Legislative Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief waiver process that would allow a prospective student-athlete to submit information and documentation directly to the basketball certification staff who, along with the Men's Basketball Issues committee chair, would review the information and determine whether circumstances warrant the submission of a waiver request. Under the current process, a waiver must be submitted by an entity within the NCAA governance structure or membership, which forces a prospective student-

athlete to approach an NCAA member institution or conference office to file a waiver on the prospective student-athlete's behalf. The committee recommended that the Subcommittee for Legislative Relief modify its process for the submission of waivers to allow a prospective student-athlete to submit documentation to the basketball certification staff, who would forward a completed request to the Men's Basketball Issues Committee liaison who will work with the committee chair to determine the viability of a waiver. The Subcommittee for Legislative Relief would then make a determination based on the suggested guidelines and any other guidance offered by the committee.

5. Agents, Gambling and Amateurism Update. The committee received a report that the NCAA Division I Amateurism Cabinet and the Leadership Council have continued their discussions of agents and the ways they enter the lives of enrolled and prospective student-athletes and how agents influence the decisions student-athletes ultimately make regarding professional career opportunities. It was noted that the following concepts are being considered as potential answers to addressing agent issues:

- a. Revised definition of an agent;
- b. Agent contact calendar;
- c. National agent registration program; and
- d. Enhanced education of prospective and current student-athletes.

The group also received information that 69 student-athletes requested early entry into the NBA draft and that 44 of those student-athletes remained in the draft after the current May 8 deadline. It also was noted that had the new rule (Proposal No. 2010-24) been in effect this year, only 38 student-athletes had entered the draft at the time of the withdrawal date (the day before the initial date for signing the spring NLI).

Committee Chair: Mitch Barnhart, University of Kentucky, Southeastern Conference

Staff Liaisons: Stephen A. Mallonee, academic and membership affairs

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