

My name is Kailyn Myshrall and I am a student-athlete at the University of Vermont and a Junior on the Field Hockey. I am involved with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee – more commonly known as SAAC - at the campus, conference, and NCAA level. The Student Athlete Advisory Committee serves as a part of the NCAA's governance structure and advocates for the Student Athlete voice. I serve as Chair of the America East Conference SAAC; and am 1 of 32 student-athletes from across the country to serve on the Division I Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

I have had the opportunity to gain insight from Student Athletes from across the America East Conference and articulate their voice to be molded into the Division I SAAC position. While it is difficult for 32 people to represent 170,000 division 1 student-athletes, the 32 members are what the current governance structure allows for representation of the collective D1 Student Athlete Voice. We vote on NCAA Legislation and have voting power on 19 NCAA standing committees, including the Board of Directors and D1 Council, the final decision making committees for Division 1. Decision makers at the NCAA are composed of University Presidents, Athletic Directors, Senior Woman Administrators, Faculty Administrative Representatives, and Student Athletes. Through my roles, I have had the opportunity to discuss at great depth the topic of Student Athlete Compensation and Name Image and Likeness.

I have had the opportunity to take part in conversations regarding Student Athlete Compensation with the NCAA Board of Governors, NCAA D1 Council, and NCAA President Mark Emmert.

NCAA SAAC published our stance in an op-ed article this fall – entitled ["We are the 100%"](#) - I would encourage you to read it if you have not done so already- as it details the collective D1 Student Athlete Voice on this matter.

I have gained insight from many different sides of this debate - but I want to make clear today I speak solely on behalf of myself, and my personal opinions as a Student Athlete at the University of Vermont, and not those of the Division 1 SAAC as a whole.

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First off, I would like to thank you for allowing the Student Athlete voice to be involved in this conversation. Student Athletes are the stakeholders who will ultimately be the most impacted by this. It is vital that educated Student Athletes are at the forefront of the conversation and decisions. I am incredibly grateful to for the opportunity to share with you my thoughts.

I am not in support of Pay or Play or any model which resembles an employer/employee relationship, but I am in strong support of Student Athlete Compensation.

Being a Student Athlete is an immense privilege. It allows us the platform to compete at an elite level, gain critical life skills, give back to our community, and earn a degree while doing it. Although-being a Student Athlete can come with barriers.

The time commitment required to compete at this level prohibits Student Athletes from, often times, holding a job, and having internship experiences. Student Athlete Compensation by means of Name Image and Likeness could reduce these barriers allowing Student Athletes increased growth and economic opportunity

Nationwide, I believe the conversation around Name Image and Likeness has been focused on the 2% of Student Athletes, those being the elite players in the sports of Men's and Women's Basketball, Football, and in especially our state- Men's Ice Hockey. These Student Athletes contribute significant revenue and stature to the athletic departments - and that is recognized and widely celebrated, and those athletes should be involved in the conversation because they provide a significantly different perspective from myself, but I am also here to remind you all that 2% of 170,000 student athletes is only 3,400 student-athletes. We cannot make rules simply for 3,400 student-athletes and rather we need to focus on the entire 170,000.

Today, I urge you to *not* let these 2% of student athletes dictate the conversation. Instead I *ask you* to focus on breaking barriers and creating opportunities for the 100% of student athletes- as well as including International Student Athletes, Female Student Athletes, student-athletes of color and Athletes of Sports, similar to my own, that do not generate revenue and are not as popular within the society which we live in today. I ask you to focus on equity.

The NCAA is working diligently to implement policy to open these barriers and is following a timeline which allows every stakeholder and committee to provide thoughts and feedback. I ask you to continue to help the NCAA's timeline and efforts to impellent Compensation Policy in a democratic fashion, I would ask that you all do this by staying engaged in what the NCAA and its committees are working diligently to try to accomplish. The current timeline forecasts D1 SAAC as well as the other NCAA Standing Committees will propose and vote on this legislation next January at the NCAA Convention, if not sooner.

Student Athlete Compensation of Name Image and Likeness will radically change the Student Athlete experience - and I am optimistic it could be for the better, if the proper safeguards are put in place. There must be conscious effort to preserve and optimize the NCAA's focus on fair and ethical recruiting practices, student athlete wellbeing and academics, scholarships, and equity on the basis of Title IX. If conducted in a rushed or uneducated way, there could be unintended, yet serious consequences for these safeguards which help to protect the Student Athlete experience.

I would like to acknowledge the fact that I have heard from multiple stakeholders, inside and outside of the NCAA, that radical changes in the NIL space could put an end as we know it to the collegiate model of sports. I speak to you with the confidence that I would not be the person I am today without collegiate athletics. Being a member of the Vermont field hockey team has taught me how to persevere through adversity, how to collaborate with others towards a common goal, how to be a leader, and how to advocate for those around me. The collegiate model has significantly changed my life for the better, and that is proof that it is doing something right. Collegiate Athletics attracts and grows strong, determined, goal-

oriented leaders and I would hate to see what our society would look like with a drastically different collegiate model.

I thank you for allowing me to express my thoughts, and I ask you to continue to keep the NIL educated Student Athlete Voice as the one of the most important voices of this conversation. I am incredibly grateful for your advocacy and dedication to the experience and wellbeing of all 100% of Student Athletes.

Thank you for your time.