

MINUTES
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
TASK FORCE ON INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
(ZOOM)
MARCH 23, 2026

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1. Call to Order

Mr. Ken Jones, Chair, convened the Task Force on Intercollegiate Athletics meeting at 10:00 a.m. on March 23, 2026. Members present for the roll call were Chair Jones, Craig Mateer, Scott Carr, Timothy Cerio, Peter Collins, Mike Griffin, Alan Levine, Keith Perry, Nick Sinatra, Scott Stricklin, and Brian White. Carson Dale and Alex Martins were not present.

2. Task Force Chair Ken Jones' Opening Remarks

In his opening remarks, Chair Jones emphasized that college athletics is undergoing a significant structural transformation driven by the creation of Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) compensation. Chair Jones noted that the Task Force's recommendations would focus on promoting competitive balance, expanding economic opportunity, safeguarding institutional integrity, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of college athletics. Chair Jones discussed the significant growth and complexity of the NIL marketplace, noting both the economic opportunities it creates for student-athletes and the legal and competitive challenges it presents to the institutions. Chair Jones further emphasized that Florida is well-positioned to lead in this evolving landscape.

3. Board of Governors Chair Alan Levine's Opening Remarks

Following Chair Jones' remarks, Board Chair Alan Levine provided opening remarks, emphasizing the reasons why he chose Governor Jones to lead this Task Force. Board Chair Levine noted that his intent in creating the Task Force was not to preclude institutions from competing in the emerging NIL marketplace, but rather to ensure a clear understanding of appropriate guardrails and the potential impacts of such participation on universities. Board Chair Levine further underscored the importance of Title IX compliance and encouraged the Task Force to evaluate the financial pipeline institutions need to remain competitive in an environment shaped by both NIL and revenue sharing. He also urged consideration of the potential impacts on non-revenue sports, the broader market direction, and the development of appropriate safeguards to protect institutions.

4. Overview of Sunshine Law Requirements

Following Board of Governors Chair Alan Levine's opening remarks, Chair Jones turned the floor over to Amanda Gay, Board of Governors General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, to provide an overview of Florida's Sunshine Law requirements.

Ms. Gay explained that her presentation was intended to provide a high-level overview of Florida's Sunshine Law and the Public Records Law. She noted the Task Force may reach out to the Chancellor or to her if they have any questions or concerns moving forward. She advised that all meetings must be conducted in an open and transparent manner, with proper public notice and opportunities for public access, and that meeting minutes must be recorded for each meeting. She emphasized that discussions among members regarding Task Force business must occur within publicly noticed meetings and cautioned against private communications that could violate open meetings requirements. Ms. Gay also highlighted the importance of maintaining public records, noting that materials, communications, and deliberations related to Task Force activities are subject to public records laws. She advised members to be mindful of these obligations to ensure full compliance throughout the Task Force's work.

5. Discussion on President Trump's Saving College Sports Roundtable

Chair Ken Jones led a discussion on the recent national "Saving College Sports" roundtable involving university and government leaders focused on the future structure of intercollegiate athletics. Chair Jones opened the floor to discussion and reiterated the Task Force's goals previously stated in the opening remarks.

Chair Jones recognized Peter Collins, Florida State University's Board of Trustees Chair, for comments.

Mr. Collins emphasized that it would not be sustainable or competitive moving forward without an antitrust exemption and the establishment of a governing body to create uniform rules, oversight, and enforcement mechanisms.

Chair Jones agreed with Mr. Collins, but he added the need for regulatory certainty.

Board Chair Levine followed up with a question for Mr. Collins. Board Chair Levine noted that some private equity structures appear to function as borrowing against future revenue streams and referenced the Board's decision to permit funding of revenue share through auxiliary entities. He asked whether, in Mr. Collins' view, other universities or conferences were pursuing such arrangements as a competitive equalizer to generate sufficient recurring revenue to support mandated revenue-sharing obligations. Mr. Collins responded affirmatively, stating that many institutions are pursuing private equity arrangements for the purpose of generating recurring revenue to fund revenue-sharing commitments. He further noted that Florida's governance structure is distinct, explaining that Board of Governors' regulations require athletics programs to remain self-sufficient and prohibit direct institutional subsidies to athletics. Mr. Collins stated that Florida State had to spend at the cap to be competitive, and they were able to add \$22.5 million from auxiliaries without raising student fees or ticket prices.

Mr. Brian White, Athletic Director at Florida Atlantic University, then provided comments, noting that comparing Florida to other states is a good first step to benchmarking. Mr. White stated that he agreed with Mr. Collins' comments on the need for a structured governance framework and an antitrust exemption. Mr. White further suggested that reevaluating broadcast rights could potentially help address underlying revenue challenges.

Mr. Scott Carr, Athletic Director for Florida International University, then provided comments, stating that he agreed with the broader comments made by other members regarding benchmarking Florida's approach against other states and the consideration of antitrust exemption. He further emphasized that it is important for athletics departments to have access to funding for facilities and infrastructure needs beyond revenue-sharing considerations. Mr. Carr

reiterated that benchmarking against other states and programs is essential, as Florida International University will not be operating at the \$22.5 million revenue-sharing cap compared to institutions such as Florida State University.

Board Chair Alan Levine then provided comments regarding antitrust considerations. He referenced the Parker Doctrine, also known as state action immunity, which provides that state, local, and certain private entities may be exempt from federal antitrust laws where it is the clearly articulated policy of the state to permit anticompetitive conduct in a particular sector, and the state actively supervises that conduct. He noted that, in the absence of congressional action on antitrust reform in intercollegiate athletics, there may be a legal pathway for institutions to pursue antitrust exemptions under this doctrine, provided the required state policy and oversight conditions are met. Chair Levine encouraged Task Force members to consult with their respective general counsels and recommended that the Board of Governors' General Counsel and institutional counsels coordinate to further evaluate these issues.

Mr. Scott Stricklin, Athletic Director at the University of Florida, then provided comments, stating that he agreed with the discussion regarding antitrust considerations. He noted that college athletics does not have a revenue problem, but rather an expense problem that drives the continual pursuit of additional revenue. Mr. Stricklin stated that no level of funding would ultimately be sufficient in the current environment, describing college athletics as a uniquely competitive landscape in which nonprofit institutions operate in zero-sum competition. He further explained that, under these conditions, costs are difficult to control and that institutions must consider mechanisms to limit financial exposure and implement cost-control strategies.

Chairman Jones followed up on comments made by Mr. Stricklin regarding the characterization of college athletics as expense-driven rather than revenue-driven. He noted that the State of Florida operates with a budget surplus and has been successful in implementing cost-containment measures. Chair Jones emphasized that institutions could benefit from examining how state resources are managed, particularly with respect to addressing expense-related challenges in both athletics and general revenue.

Mr. Mike Griffin, Athletic Director at the University of South Florida, then provided comments, noting that without repeating the points already made by other members, USF is making significant strides in its athletic program and infrastructure. He emphasized that the institution faces challenges in retaining coaches due to the revenue gap. He further commented on the regulatory environment surrounding athlete representation, expressing concerns about the impact of "handlers" on student athletes. Mr. Griffin emphasized the importance of ensuring that Florida institutions work with licensed, qualified agents rather than unregulated representatives to better protect student athletes.

Mr. Collins echoed Mr. Griffin's concerns about unregulated representatives taking advantage of student athletes. He emphasized that there is often little incentive for such individuals to prioritize the long-term interests of the student-athlete or their continued enrollment at the institution.

6. Goals and Objectives

Chair Ken Jones concluded the discussion and outlined the next steps for the Task Force. He stated that, at the next meeting, he would like the Task Force to identify three core pillars to guide its recommendations and provide a structured framework for its final report. Chair Jones emphasized that any recommendations developed by the Task Force should be practical, realistic, and implementable. He encouraged members to consider key areas, including financial literacy for student-athletes, compliance with Title IX, and the development of a fair and equitable system that

is sustainable in the long term.

7. Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

In his closing remarks, Chair Jones stated that the next Task Force meeting would be held in mid- to late April at the University of South Florida and would include participation from subject-matter experts. He requested that Task Force members notify the Chancellor and Staff of any items they would like to include on the agenda. Chair Jones also noted that members may suggest potential speakers for consideration, and such requests should be communicated to the Chancellor.

Chair Ken Jones asked Board staff whether a date had been set, and the Chancellor responded that the date had not yet been finalized but was expected to be determined later that week.

Board Chair Alan Levine provided brief closing remarks regarding an upcoming Board of Governors regulation advancing through the Budget and Finance Committee that week. He explained that the proposed regulation would require any significant or transformational agreements entered into by a university to be reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors prior to finalization. He further clarified that this requirement would not apply to agreements involving the use of a university's name, image, or logo.

Chair Ken Jones thanked members for their time and participation. He reiterated that if any additional thoughts or considerations arose following the meeting, members should reach out to the Board of Governors staff.

Meeting ended at 10:59 a.m.

Ken Jones, Chair

Chrissy Rojas,
Preparer of Meeting Minutes