

## **Athletic Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Thursday, June 4, 2026

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** Boyd Conference Room

**Members Present:** Mr. Ryan Bailey, Ms. Cathy Deeb, Mr. Randy Price, Mr. Shannon Remines, Mr. Anthony Tolley, Mr. Brodderick Tucker.

**Guests:** Dr. Sudhakar Jamkhani

### **Call to Order**

Mr. Anthony Tolley called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM in the Boyd Conference Room. Prior to the athletics report, Dr. Sudhakar Jamkhani provided an overview of his role as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR).

### **Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) Report**

Dr. Sudhakar Jamkhani discussed the responsibilities of the FAR position, emphasizing NCAA and CIAA compliance, academic integrity, student-athlete advocacy, and communication between athletics and academics. He reported:

- A Compliance and Academic Advisory Committee is being established to strengthen collaboration between athletics and faculty.
- The FAR serves as an independent resource to ensure institutional compliance and student-athlete academic progress.
- Bluefield State is scheduled for a FAR review in Fall 2027.
- Information and training materials regarding compliance requirements have been shared with committee members and faculty leadership.
- Dr. Sudhakar Jamkhani highlighted the importance of transparency, communication, and maintaining alignment between athletics and the university's academic mission

### **2025-2026 Recap / Student-Athlete Success**

Athletics Director Josh Tucker presented academic performance data for the 2025-2026 academic year.

### **Academic Highlights**

- Overall student-athlete GPA for the academic year: **3.12**
- Student-athletes graduating: **62**
  - Cum Laude: **8**
  - Summa Cum Laude: **3**
  - Magna Cum Laude: **3**
- Student-athletes earning a semester GPA of 3.0 or higher: **225**
- Student-athletes earning a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher: **122**

- Student-athletes earning a semester GPA of 4.0: **32**
- Student-athletes with cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher: **185**
- Student-athletes with cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher: **71**
- Student-athletes with cumulative GPA of 4.0: **5**

The committee discussed the importance of academic achievement and noted that approximately 25 student-athletes currently have GPAs below 2.0 and are academically at risk. Athletics staff continue to focus on improving academic performance across all programs.

### **Academic Support**

Mr. Brodderick Tucker reported improvements in academic support and collaboration with faculty, including enhanced advising processes and stronger relationships between athletics and academic departments.

### **Competitive Success**

Mr. Brodderick Tucker reviewed team performance during the 2025-2026 season.

### **Highlights**

- **Football:** Improved from 1-9 to 3-7 overall (2-5 conference).
- **Softball:** Improved from 4-30 to 22-26 overall; finished second in the CIAA North. Head Coach Holiday was named CIAA Coach of the Year.
- **Women's Tennis:** Finished first in the North Division and second in the CIAA.
- **Women's Basketball:** Improved conference standing and overall competitiveness.
- **Men's Golf:** Ranked regionally higher than any CIAA program despite finishing fourth in the conference championship.
- Several programs continue to rank among the top five in the CIAA.

The committee expressed satisfaction with overall athletic progress and continued competitiveness across multiple sports.

### **Enrollment & Roster Management**

Mr. Brodderick Tucker reported:

- Current student-athlete population: **389**
- Projected student-athlete population for 2026-2027: **433**
- Projected increase: **44 student-athletes**
- Estimated athletics-related tuition revenue: **\$7.2 million**
- Projected revenue increase over the previous year: approximately **\$600,000**

Discussion focused on recruiting students who are a good fit academically, culturally, and financially for both the university and athletic programs.

## Resource Development

No formal report was presented. Mr. Brodderick Tucker indicated that a resource development update would be provided at the next committee meeting.

## Facilities Projects

Mr. Brodderick Tucker reported on several facility initiatives:

- Continued implementation of the agreement naming the football complex the **Ellis Ray Williams Sr. Athletic Complex**.
- Signage and branding updates are planned in accordance with the naming agreement.
- Air conditioning is scheduled to be installed in the Neal facility before next year.

The committee noted the importance of these improvements for student-athlete experience and campus visitors.

## Community Engagement & Brand Visibility

Athletic programs completed approximately **1,220 community service hours** during the academic year.

## Notable Contributions

- Baseball: **500 hours**
- Softball: **450 hours**
- Other teams participated in:
  - Veterans Day activities
  - Easter events
  - Mental health awareness programs
  - Animal shelter support
  - Food pantry assistance
  - Community clean-up efforts
  - School mentoring and educational outreach

Committee members commended student-athletes for their positive impact and representation of Bluefield State throughout the region.

## Personnel Updates

Mr. Brodderick Tucker reported:

- Paul Davis is departing Bluefield State after five years to accept a position at Lincoln University (PA).
- A search process will begin to fill the vacancy.
- Ryan Bailey is expected to be on leave following the birth of his child.
- Mr. Brodderick Tucker will temporarily oversee compliance responsibilities while continuing staff training and transition efforts.

## Upcoming Events

- The **Third Annual Fall Festival** is scheduled for **August 22, 2026**, during the first week of the academic year.

Dr. Sudhakar Jamkhandi reiterated the importance of communicating that athletic operations are funded through student fees and athletic revenue sources rather than state appropriations, helping to address common misconceptions about athletics funding.

## Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Anthony Tolley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.