UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA (OAKLAND DIVISION) In re: College Athlete NIL Litigation No. 4:20-CV-03919 (N.D. Cal) AMENDED STIPULATION AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT 

This Stipulation and Settlement Agreement, inclusive of all exhibits and appendices (hereinafter, "Agreement," "Settlement Agreement" or "SSA"), is made and entered into as of September 26, 2024, by and between Plaintiffs, both individually and on behalf of the Classes in the above-captioned class action, and Defendants National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA"), Atlantic Coast Conference ("ACC"), The Big Ten Conference, Inc. ("Big Ten"), The Big 12 Conference, Inc. ("Big 12"), Pac-12 Conference ("Pac-12") and Southeastern Conference ("SEC") (collectively, the "Defendants"). This Settlement Agreement is intended by the Parties to fully, finally and forever resolve, discharge and settle the Released Claims, upon and subject to the terms and conditions hereof.

### RECITALS

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs are prosecuting the Action on their own behalf and on behalf of the Classes against Defendants;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have alleged, among other things, that Defendants have engaged in anticompetitive conduct in violation of the U.S. antitrust laws in connection with certain NCAA and conference rules and practices regarding (a) compensation and benefits which may be provided to student-athletes during the relevant class periods and (b) NCAA roster and scholarship limits;

WHEREAS, the Defendants have denied and continue to deny each and all of the claims and allegations of wrongdoing made by the Plaintiffs in the Action; all charges of wrongdoing or liability against them arising out of or relating to any of the conduct, statements, acts or omissions alleged, or that could have been alleged, in the Action; the allegations that the Plaintiffs or any member of the Classes were harmed by any conduct by the Defendants alleged in the Action or otherwise; and deny any liability whatsoever;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs and Defendants agree that neither this SSA nor any statement made in the negotiation thereof shall be deemed or construed to be an admission or evidence of any violation of any statute or law or of any liability or wrongdoing by the Defendants or of the truth of any of the claims or allegations alleged in the Action;

WHEREAS, arm's-length settlement negotiations have taken place between Defendants and Class Counsel—under the supervision of a highly experienced third-party mediator, Eric Green—and this SSA embodies all of the terms and conditions of the good-faith settlement between the Parties, and has been reached as a result of the Parties' negotiations and mediations, subject to approval of the Court;

WHEREAS, Class Counsel have concluded, after extensive discovery and due investigation and after carefully considering the relevant circumstances, including, without limitation, the claims asserted in the Action, the legal and factual defenses thereto and the applicable law, that it is in the best interests of the Plaintiffs and the Classes to enter into this SSA to avoid the uncertainties of litigation and to ensure that the benefits reflected herein are obtained for the Plaintiffs and the Classes, and, further, that Class Counsel consider the settlement set forth herein to be fair, reasonable, and adequate and in the best interests of the Plaintiffs and the Classes; and

WHEREAS, Defendants, despite their asserted defenses and continued denial of Plaintiffs' allegations and of all liability claimed therein, have nevertheless agreed to enter into this SSA to avoid the further expense, risk, and inconvenience and distraction of burdensome and protracted litigation, to obtain the releases, orders, and judgment contemplated by this SSA, and thereby to put to rest with finality all claims that have been or could have been asserted against Defendants' rules regarding monies and benefits that may be provided to student-athletes, scholarship limits, and roster limits based on the allegations in Plaintiffs' amended complaint.

### **AGREEMENT**

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the agreements herein set forth, it is hereby stipulated and agreed by and among the Parties, by and through their attorneys of record, that the claims of the Plaintiffs and the Classes be finally and fully settled, compromised, and dismissed on the merits and with prejudice as to Defendants and all other Releasees and, except as hereafter provided, without costs against the Plaintiffs, the Classes, or Defendants, subject to

the approval of the Court, on the following terms and conditions:

# A. <u>Definitions</u>

- 1. As used in this SSA and its exhibits and appendices, the following terms have the meanings specified below:
  - (a) "Academic Year" means July 1 of any given calendar year during the Term through and including June 30 of the following calendar year.
  - (b) "Action" means the litigation captioned *In re: College Athlete NIL Litigation*, Case No. 4:20-CV-03919 (N.D. Cal).
  - (c) "Additional Compensation Claims Settlement Amount" means the total sum of six hundred million US dollars (\$600,000,000.00).
  - (d) "Additional Counsel" means Jeffrey Kodroff of Spector, Roseman & Kodroff, P.C.
  - (e) "Authorized Recipient" means any member of any or all of the Damages Settlement Classes who, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, is entitled to a distribution consistent with any Distribution Plan or order of the Court.
  - (f) "Booster" means "representative of athletics interests," as defined in NCAA Bylaws 8.4.2, 13.02.16, and 13.02.16.1.
  - (g) "Classes" means collectively the Damages Settlement Classes and the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class. All of the Classes exclude the officers, directors, and employees of Defendants. All of the Classes also exclude all judicial officers presiding over the Action and their immediate family members and staff.
  - (h) "Class Counsel" means the law firms of Winston & Strawn LLP and Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP, with lead Class Counsel Jeffrey Kessler and Steve Berman.
  - (i) "Class Member" means a Person who falls within the definition of one or

more of the Classes.

- (j) "Complaint" means the amended complaint filed in the Action on July 26, 2024.
- (k) "Conference Defendant" means individually each of the ACC, the Big
  Ten, the Big 12, the Pac-12, and the SEC; collectively the foregoing are
  referred to as "Conference Defendants."
- (l) "Court" means the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.
- (m) "Damages Fee and Expense Award" means any order entered by the Court awarding Class Counsel and/or Additional Counsel any amount of fees and/or costs in connection with the settlement of the monetary damages claims of the Damages Settlement Classes as detailed in Paragraph 28.
- (n) "Damages Settlement Classes" means the classes asserted in the Action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3) as modified below:
  - 1. Football and Men's Basketball Class: All student-athletes who have received or will receive full GIA scholarships and compete on, competed on, or will compete on a Division I men's basketball team or an FBS football team, at a college or university that is a member of one of the Power Five Conferences (including Notre Dame), and who have been or will be declared initially eligible for competition in Division I at any time from June 15, 2016 through September 15, 2024.
  - 2. Women's Basketball Class: All student-athletes who have received or will receive full GIA scholarships and compete on, competed on, or will compete on a Division I women's basketball team at a college or university that is a member of one the Power Five Conferences (including Notre Dame), and who have been or

- will be declared initially eligible for competition in Division I at any time from June 15, 2016 through September 15, 2024.
- 3. Additional Sports Class: Excluding members of the Football and Men's Basketball Class and members of the Women's Basketball Class, all student-athletes who compete on, competed on, or will compete on a Division I athletic team and who have been or will be declared initially eligible for competition in Division I at any time from June 15, 2016 through September 15, 2024.
- (o) "Defendants" means, collectively, the NCAA, the ACC, the Big Ten, the Big 12, the Pac-12, and the SEC.
- (p) "Distribution Plan" means the plan or formula of allocation of the Gross Settlement Fund for future distribution to Authorized Recipients.
- (q) "Effective Date" means the first date by which all of the events and conditions specified in Paragraph 32 of this Agreement have occurred and have been met.
- (r) "Escrow Account" means the bank account to be established at a banking institution chartered pursuant to the National Bank Act by Class Counsel and the NCAA and maintained by the Escrow Agent into which the Gross Settlement Fund and any Injunctive Relief Fee and Expense Awards payable before the Effective Date shall be deposited, pursuant to the terms of this Settlement Agreement and the Escrow Agreement. Such Escrow Account is to be administered under the Court's continuing supervision and control.
- (s) "Escrow Agent" means the escrow agent (and any successor agent) jointly designated by Class Counsel and the NCAA to administer the Escrow Account in accordance with the Escrow Agreement.
- (t) "Escrow Agreement" means the agreement to be mutually agreed to by

- the Parties concerning the Escrow Account.
- (u) "Execution Date" means the date of the last signature set forth on the signature pages below.
- (v) "Final Approval" means the date the Court has entered the Final ApprovalOrder as described in Paragraph 15 below.
- (w) "Gross Settlement Fund" means the NIL Claims Settlement Amount and the Additional Compensation Claims Settlement Amount plus any interest that may accrue.
- (x) "Injunctive Relief Fee and Expense Awards" means any order entered by the Court awarding Class Counsel any amount of fees and/or costs in connection with the settlement of the injunctive relief claims of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class as detailed in Paragraph 27.
- (y) "Injunctive Notice Costs" means the reasonable and authorized costs and expenses, not to exceed one million US dollars (\$1,000,000.00), to be paid by Plaintiffs or deducted from the Gross Settlement Fund for the cost of notice to the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class.
- (z) "Injunctive Relief Settlement Class" means the class asserted in the Action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2): All student-athletes who compete on, competed on, or will compete on a Division I athletic team at any time between June 15, 2020 through the end of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term.
- (aa) "Injunctive Relief Settlement" means the Injunctive Relief Settlement attached as Appendix A to this Settlement Agreement and fully incorporated herein.
- (bb) "Injunctive Relief Settlement Term" or "Term" means ten (10) Academic Years from the date of Final Approval of this Agreement.
- (cc) "Judgment" means the order of judgment and dismissal, with prejudice,

of the Action.

- (dd) "Member Institution" means any college, school, or university that is a member, in any sport, of NCAA Division I and/or a Conference Defendant, together with any entity owned, controlled, funded, or operated by said college, school, or university (or any division or department thereof).
- (ee) "NIL Claims Settlement Amount" means the total sum of one billion, nine hundred seventy-six million US dollars (\$1,976,000,000.00).
- (ff) "Notice and Administrative Costs" means the reasonable and authorized costs and expenses, not to exceed one million US dollars (\$1,000,000.00) absent written consent of all Parties, to be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund to pay for the cost of notice to the Damages Settlement Classes and related administrative costs.
- (gg) "Notice and Claims Administrator" means the claims administrator(s) to be selected by Class Counsel and approved by the Court.
- (hh) "Opt-Out" means a Person who falls within the definition of the Classes who has timely and validly elected to be excluded from one of the Damages Settlement Classes pursuant to the procedures set forth in this Settlement Agreement.
- (ii) "Parties" means, collectively, Defendants and the Plaintiffs (on behalf of themselves and the Classes).
- (jj) "Person(s)" means an individual, corporation, limited liability corporation, professional corporation, limited liability partnership, partnership, limited partnership, association, joint stock company, estate, legal representative, trust, unincorporated association, government or any political subdivision or agency thereof, and any business or legal entity and any spouses, heirs, predecessors, successors, representatives, or

- assignees of any of the foregoing.
- (kk) "Plaintiffs" means the named plaintiffs in the Action, as well as any individuals who may be added into the Action as additional named class representatives during the Term, with the intent that, to the extent reasonably possible, there is during the Term at least one current student-athlete that is a Plaintiff.
- (ll) "Preliminary Approval" means the date on which the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order.
- (mm) "Preliminary Approval Order" means the Order entered by Court, as described in Paragraph 12, preliminarily approving the settlement set forth in this Agreement.
- (nn) "Released Claims" means the Released Damages Class Claims and the Released Injunctive Class Claims.
- (oo) "Released Damages Class Claims" means, for each of the Plaintiffs and each and every member of each of the Damages Settlement Classes who does not opt out, all manner of claims, demands, actions, suits, causes of action, whether class, individual, or otherwise in nature, damages whenever incurred, liabilities of any nature whatsoever, including without limitation costs, penalties, and attorneys' fees, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, in law or equity, that the Releasors, or any one of them, whether directly, representatively, derivatively, or in any other capacity, ever had, now have, or hereafter can, shall, or may have, that were raised or could have been raised in the Action prior to Final Approval (1) on account of, arising out of, or resulting from any and all previously existing NCAA and conference rules regarding monies and benefits that may be provided to student-athletes by the NCAA, Division I conferences and/or Division I Member Institutions, or

(2) relating in any way to any NCAA or conference limitations on the numbers of scholarships allowed or permitted in any sport, including but not limited to, claims arising under federal or state antitrust, unfair competition, unfair practices, price discrimination, unitary pricing, trade practice, or civil conspiracy law, including without limitation the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.* For the avoidance of doubt, the Released Damages Class Claims do not include the Unreleased Claims.

"Released Injunctive Class Claims" means all declaratory and injunctive (pp) relief claims, demands, actions, suits, causes of action, whether class, individual, or otherwise in nature, liabilities of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, asserted or unasserted, in law or equity, that the Releasors, or any one of them, whether directly, representatively, derivatively, or in any other capacity, ever had, now have, or hereafter can, shall, or may have, that were raised or could have been raised in the Action prior to Final Approval or during the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term on account of, arising out of, or resulting from the continuation of existing (at the time of filing for preliminary approval of the Injunctive Relief Settlement) NCAA and conference rules, as well as new or revised NCAA and conference rules agreed to as part of the Injunctive Relief Settlement, regarding (1) monies and benefits that may be provided to student-athletes by the NCAA, Division I conferences, and/or Division I Member Institutions under NCAA or conference rules; (2) NCAA roster and scholarship limits as agreed to in the Injunctive Relief Settlement; or (3) the subjects addressed by the Related Injunctive Relief NCAA & Conference Rules (collectively, the "Injunctive Rules"), including, but not limited to, claims arising under federal or state antitrust, unfair competition, unfair practices, price discrimination, unitary pricing,

trade practice, or civil conspiracy law, including without limitation the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.* For the avoidance of doubt, the Released Injunctive Class Claims does not include the Unreleased Claims.

- (qq) "Related Injunctive Relief NCAA & Conference Rules" means:
  - 1. NCAA and conference rules prohibiting Boosters (individually or collectively) of a Member Institution from entering into NIL licenses with or for the benefit of current or prospective student-athletes at a given Member Institution unless the license/payment is for a valid business purpose related to the promotion or endorsement of goods or services provided to the general public for profit, with compensation at rates and terms commensurate with compensation paid to similarly-situated individuals with comparable NIL value who are not current or prospective student-athletes at the Member Institution; provided, however, that the NCAA or conferences will provide for neutral arbitration, as described in Article 6, Section 2 of the Injunctive Relief Settlement, for any Member Institution or student-athlete to contest any discipline sought to be imposed on them for receiving payments in violation of these rules;
  - 2. NCAA and conference rules governing the number of seasons/length of time student-athletes are eligible to receive benefits, including scholarships and payments pursuant to the Injunctive Relief Settlement, including without limitation any rule capping the number of years a student-athlete may receive payments at four years, and providing that all four of those years must be played within a consecutive five-year period (in the event of a national force majeure event that leads to the cancellation of games, or the absence of fans, the rules may provide for an additional year to be added onto the five-year period);

- 3. NCAA and conference rules requiring that student-athletes continue to make progress toward a degree while enrolled in any Member Institution in order to receive benefits pursuant to the Injunctive Relief Settlement;
- 4. All existing (at the time of filing for preliminary approval of the Injunctive Relief Settlement) NCAA rules regarding the compensation and benefits that may or may not be provided by Division I conferences or Member Institutions to student-athletes, modified as necessary to conform to the terms of the Injunctive Relief Settlement and this Agreement;
- 5. NCAA and conference rules, subject to Class Counsel's review and approval that shall not be unreasonably withheld, permitting studentathletes the ability to seek guidance from the Designated Enforcement Entity prior to entering into a proposed NIL contract or agreement as to whether said contract may constitute a violation of the NCAA rules affirmed, revised, or created pursuant to the Injunctive Relief Settlement;
- 6. NCAA and conference rules, subject to Class Counsel's review and approval that shall not be unreasonably withheld, permitting a studentathlete to retain or regain eligibility by both (a) rescinding or modifying any agreement determined to be non-compliant with the NCAA rules affirmed, revised, or created pursuant to the Injunctive Relief Settlement and (b) returning, as necessary, any compensation or consideration received pursuant to a non-compliant agreement, in order to expunge any violation of the NCAA rules affirmed, revised, or created pursuant to the Injunctive Relief Settlement;

- 7. NCAA and conference rules addressing circumvention subject to the procedures set forth in the Injunctive Relief Settlement Article 6, Section 3.
- (rr) "Releasees" means jointly and severally, individually and collectively, the NCAA, all Division I conferences, including all Conference Defendants, all Division I Member Institutions, the College Football Playoff, and all of their respective present and former direct and indirect parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, trustees, employees, agents, attorneys, servants, representatives, members, managers, and partners and the predecessors, heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of any of the foregoing persons or entities.
- (ss) "Releasors" means, jointly and severally, individually and collectively, the Plaintiffs and each and every Class Member on their own behalf and on behalf of their respective past and present managers, agents, legal representatives, trustees, parents, affiliates, heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns and the past and present legal representatives, trustees, parents, heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors, and assigns of each of the foregoing.
- (tt) "Roster Limits" means the roster limits attached as Appendix B to this Settlement Agreement.
- (uu) "Unknown Claims" means any Released Claim that a Plaintiff and/or Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or their favor at the time of the release of the Releasees that if known by him, her, or them, might have affected his, her, or their settlement with and release of the Releasees, or might have affected his, her or their decision not to object to or opt out of this settlement. Such Unknown Claims include claims that

are the subject of California Civil Code §1542 and equivalent, similar or comparable laws or principles of law. California Civil Code §1542 provides:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

### (vv) "Unreleased Claims" means:

- 1. The claims currently raised in the Complaint in *Choh v. Brown et al.*, No. 3:23-cv-00305-AWT (D. Conn.) ("*Choh*"), against the Ivy League and Ivy League member institutions ("*Choh* Defendants"), challenging an alleged agreement among the *Choh* Defendants not to award athletic scholarships or otherwise provide any compensation or education-related reimbursements for athletic services as permitted under then-applicable NCAA rules. The previously filed *Choh* claims arise out of unique aspects of rules applicable within the Ivy League alone. Released Damages Class Claims and Released Injunctive Class Claims otherwise fully apply to student-athletes who are in the Damages Settlement Classes or the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class, including but not limited to Ivy League student-athletes, and likewise otherwise fully apply to Releasees, which include but are not limited to the Ivy League, Ivy League member institutions, and Defendants;
- 2. The claims currently stated in the Complaint in *Johnson et al. v. National Collegiate Athletic Association et al.*, No. 2:19-cv-05230-JP (E.D. Pa.), claims under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, or any other federal labor law, or claims under any analogous state labor laws; and

27

28

3. Claims under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.*, other than any claims arising out of or relating to the distribution of the Gross Settlement Fund.

# B. <u>Injunctive Relief Settlement Terms</u>

2. The terms set forth in Appendix A hereto relating to the Injunctive Relief Settlement are incorporated as if fully set forth in this Settlement Agreement and shall be complied with by Plaintiffs, all members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class, Class Counsel, Defendants, and Member Institutions that choose to provide or facilitate payments or benefits to student-athletes as permitted by the Injunctive Relief Settlement including but not limited to incremental scholarships permitted by Article 3, Section 3(b) of the Injunctive Relief Settlement.

# C. Damages Settlement Classes Settlement Funds

3. Settlement Payments. In full, complete, and final settlement of any and all claims for NIL-related damages in the Action, Defendants shall pay the NIL Claims Settlement Amount in equal, annual installments over the course of ten (10) years with the first installment due on May 15, 2025, or within forty-five (45) days of entry of the Final Approval Order, whichever is later; all such payments shall be deposited into the Escrow Account. In full, complete, and final settlement of any and all additional claims for damages in the Action, Defendants shall pay the Additional Compensation Claims Settlement Amount in equal, annual installments over the course of ten (10) years with the first installment due on May 15, 2025, or within forty-five (45) days of entry of the Final Approval Order, whichever is later; all such payments shall be deposited into the Escrow Account. Payments subsequent to the first installment will be made on July 15 of each calendar year beginning in the first year after the first installment is made and all such subsequent payments shall be deposited into the Escrow Account. In the event that the foregoing dates fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or a U.S. bank holiday, the payment will be made on the next business day. The NIL Claims Settlement Amount and Additional Compensation Claims Settlement Amount together represent an all-in

cash settlement amount for the damages claims in the Action, which includes all monetary benefits and distributions to the members of the Damages Settlement Classes, attorneys' fees and expenses except as specified in this Settlement Agreement, escrow fees, taxes, tax expenses, and all other costs and expenses relating to the settlement (including, but not limited to, administration costs and expenses, notice costs and expenses, and settlement costs and expenses).

- 4. **Disbursements Prior to Effective Date.** The Gross Settlement Fund will remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Court until such time as it is fully distributed in compliance with the Settlement Agreement, Escrow Agreement, and any applicable Court order. No amount may be disbursed from the Gross Settlement Fund unless and until the Effective Date, except that: (a) Notice and Administrative Costs and Injunctive Notice Costs may be paid from the Gross Settlement Fund as they become due; and (b) Taxes and Tax Expenses (as defined in Paragraph 5 below) may be paid as they become due. Class Counsel will attempt in good faith to minimize the amount of Notice and Administrative Costs and Injunctive Notice Costs.
- 5. Taxes. The Escrow Account is intended by the Parties to be treated as being at all times a "qualified settlement fund" within the meaning of Treas. Reg. §1.468B-1, and to that end the Parties hereto shall cooperate with each other and shall not take a position in any filing or before any tax authority that is inconsistent with such treatment. The Escrow Agent shall timely make such elections as necessary or advisable to carry out the provisions of this paragraph, including the "relation-back election" (as defined in Treas. Reg. §1.468B-1(j)) back to the earliest permitted date. Such elections shall be made in compliance with the procedures and requirements contained in such regulations. It shall be the responsibility of the Escrow Agent to prepare and deliver timely and properly the necessary documentation for signature by all necessary parties, and thereafter to cause the appropriate filing to occur.
  - (a) For the purpose of §468B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the "administrator" shall be the Escrow Agent. The Escrow Agent shall satisfy the administrative requirements imposed

by Treas. Reg. §1.468B-2 by, *e.g.*, (i) obtaining a taxpayer identification number, (ii) satisfying any information reporting or withholding requirements imposed on distributions from the Gross Settlement Fund, and (iii) timely and properly filing applicable federal, state and local tax returns necessary or advisable with respect to the Gross Settlement Fund (including, without limitation, the returns described in Treas. Reg. §1.468B-2(k)) and paying any taxes reported thereon. Such returns (as well as the election described in this paragraph) shall be consistent with the provisions of this paragraph and in all events shall reflect that all Taxes as defined in Paragraph 5(b) below on the income earned by the Gross Settlement Fund shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund as provided in Paragraph 6 hereof.

- (b) The following shall be paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund: (i) all taxes (including any estimated taxes, interest or penalties) arising with respect to the income earned by the Gross Settlement Fund, including, without limitation, any taxes or tax detriments that may be imposed upon Defendants or their counsel with respect to any income earned by the Gross Settlement Fund for any period during which the Gross Settlement Fund does not qualify as a "qualified settlement fund" for federal or state income tax purposes (collectively, "Taxes"); and (ii) all expenses and costs incurred in connection with the operation and implementation of this paragraph, including, without limitation, expenses of tax attorneys and/or accountants and mailing and distribution costs and expenses relating to filing (or failing to file) the returns described in this paragraph (collectively, "Tax Expenses").
- (c) In all events neither Defendants nor their counsel shall have any liability or responsibility for the Taxes or the Tax Expenses. With funds from the Gross Settlement Fund, the Escrow Agent shall indemnify and hold harmless Defendants and their counsel for Taxes and Tax Expenses (including, without limitation, Taxes payable by reason of any such indemnification). Further, Taxes

25 26

27

28

and Tax Expenses shall be treated as, and considered to be, a cost of administration of the Gross Settlement Fund and shall timely be paid by the Escrow Agent out of the Gross Settlement Fund without prior order from the Court, and the Escrow Agent shall be obligated (notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary) to withhold from distribution to Authorized Recipients any funds necessary to pay such amounts, including the establishment of adequate reserves for any Taxes and Tax Expenses (as well as any amounts that may be required to be withheld under Treas. Reg. §1.468B-2(1)(2)); neither Defendants nor their counsel are responsible therefor, nor shall they have any liability therefor. The Parties agree to cooperate with the Escrow Agent, each other, their tax attorneys and their accountants to the extent reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this paragraph.

- 6. Distribution of Gross Settlement Fund. Upon further order of the Court, the Notice and Claims Administrator, subject to the supervision and direction of the Court and/or Class Counsel as may be necessary or as circumstances may require, shall administer and oversee distribution of the Gross Settlement Fund to Authorized Recipients pursuant to the Distribution Plan, which must be approved by the Court. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Distribution Plan and any order(s) of the Court, the Gross Settlement Fund shall be applied as follows:
  - (a) To pay all costs and expenses reasonably and actually incurred in connection with providing notice to the Classes in connection with administration and distribution to Authorized Recipients, and in connection with paying escrow fees and costs as detailed herein, if any;
  - (b) To pay the Taxes and Tax Expenses as defined herein;
  - (c) To pay any Damages Fee and Expense Award that is allowed by the Court, subject to and in accordance with the Settlement Agreement; and
  - (d) To distribute the balance to Authorized Recipients as allowed by the Agreement,

the Distribution Plan or order of the Court.

- 7. **No Liability for Distribution of Settlement Funds**. Releasees will make reasonable efforts to facilitate Class Counsel's receipt of records necessary to identify Class Members. Neither the Releasees nor their counsel, however, shall have any responsibility for, or liability whatsoever with respect to, the distribution of the Gross Settlement Fund, the Distribution Plan, the determination, administration or calculation of claims, the Settlement Fund's qualification as a "qualified settlement fund", the payment or withholding of Taxes or Tax Expenses, or any losses incurred in connection with any such matters. In addition to the releases set forth in Paragraphs 19 and 23 herein, the Releasors hereby fully, finally and forever release, relinquish, and discharge the Releasees and their counsel from any and all such liability. No Person shall have any claim against Class Counsel or the Notice and Claims Administrator based on the distributions made substantially in accordance with this Settlement Agreement, the Distribution Plan, or further orders of the Court.
- 8. All Claims Satisfied by Gross Settlement Fund. Each Class Member shall look solely to the Gross Settlement Fund for settlement and satisfaction, as provided herein, of all claims released herein. Except as provided by order of the Court pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, no Class Member shall have any interest in the Gross Settlement Fund or any portion thereof.
- 9. **Balance Remaining in Gross Settlement Fund.** If there is any balance remaining in the Gross Settlement Fund (whether by reason of tax refunds, uncashed checks or otherwise), subject to Court approval, Class Counsel may distribute such balance in an equitable and economic fashion to Authorized Recipients. In no event shall any portion of the Gross Settlement Fund revert to Defendants.
  - D. <u>Preliminary Approval Order, Notice Order, Final Approval Hearing & Appeals</u>
- 10. Reasonable Best Efforts to Effectuate This Settlement. The Parties: (a) acknowledge that it is their intent to consummate this Agreement; and (b) agree to cooperate to

the extent reasonably necessary to effectuate and implement the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to exercise their best efforts to accomplish the terms and conditions of this Agreement. In addition, Class Counsel agree to recommend approval of this settlement by the Court without qualification or condition not set forth herein.

- 11. Conditional Certification of Classes. The Parties agree and hereby stipulate to the certification of the Classes set forth in Paragraphs 1(n) and 1(z) of this Agreement pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 23. The Parties' stipulation to the certification of the Classes is for purposes of the settlement set forth in this Agreement only. Defendants' agreement to the certification of the Classes solely for the purpose of this Agreement does not, and shall not, constitute, in this or any other proceeding, an admission by any Defendant of any kind or any determination that certification of any class for trial or other litigation purposes in the Action or any other separate action is, or would be, appropriate. Defendants reserve all rights to challenge certification of any class or subclass in any other action on all available grounds as if no class had been certified in this Action for purposes of the settlement.
- 12. **Motion for Preliminary Approval.** Class Counsel shall submit to the Court a motion for preliminary approval of the settlement and final judgment contemplated by this Settlement Agreement and for a stay of all proceedings in the Action against Defendants until the Court renders a final decision regarding the approval of the settlement and, if it approves the settlement, enters the Judgment. The motion shall include: (a) the proposed forms of notice of the settlement to members of the Classes as detailed in Paragraph 14, and (b) the proposed form of order preliminarily approving this settlement. Class Counsel shall provide Defendants' counsel with a draft of the motion for preliminary approval at least two (2) business days prior to filing.
- 13. **Proposed Form of Notice.** Along with the motion for preliminary approval, Class Counsel shall submit to the Court for approval a proposed form of, method for and schedule for dissemination of notice to the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class and the Damages Settlement Classes. To the extent practicable and to the extent consistent with this paragraph,

Class Counsel may seek to coordinate this notice program with the settlement of claims in *Hubbard, et al v. NCAA, et al.*, Case No. 4:2023-cv-01593 (N.D. Cal.) ("*Hubbard*"). The motion for preliminary approval shall recite and ask the Court to find that the proposed form of and method for dissemination of notice to the Classes constitutes valid, due, and sufficient notice to the Classes, constitutes the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and complies fully with the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and the Northern District of California's Procedural Guidance for Class Action Settlements. Defendants shall be responsible for providing any notice that may be required by the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005.

- 14. Additional Notice. During the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term, Defendants, conferences, and/or their Member Institutions shall take reasonable steps to provide a notice of the Injunctive Relief Settlement (in a form approved by Class Counsel and the Court) to all Division I student-athletes at or before the time they first enroll at a Division I Member Institution ("incoming student-athletes") or later join, for the first time, a Division I Member Institution athletic team. All such incoming student-athletes shall have the right to file written objections to a continuation of the Injunctive Relief Settlement with the Court within sixty (60) days of receiving such notice.
- 15. **Motion for Final Approval and Entry of Judgment.** Class Counsel shall submit a motion for final approval of this Settlement Agreement by the Court, after notice to the members of the Classes, and shall seek entry of the final approval order ("Final Approval Order") and Judgment as set forth herein:
  - (a) Certifying the Classes, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, solely for purposes of this settlement;
  - (b) fully and finally approving the settlement contemplated by this Agreement and its terms as being fair, reasonable, and adequate within the meaning of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and directing its consummation pursuant to its terms and conditions;

- (c) entering the injunction contemplated by Appendix A;
- (d) finding that the notice given to the Class Members constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances and complies in all respects with the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and due process;
- (e) directing that the Action be dismissed with prejudice as to all Released Claims as to the Releasees, after final approval is granted and any appeals are exhausted, and, except as provided for herein, without costs;
- (f) discharging and releasing the Releasees from all Released Claims;
- (g) permanently barring and enjoining the institution and prosecution, by Plaintiffs and Class Members, of any other action against the Releasees in any court asserting any Released Claims;
- (h) reserving continuing and exclusive jurisdiction over this settlement, including all future proceedings concerning the administration, consummation and enforcement of this Agreement;
- (i) determining pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(b) that there is no just reason for delay and directing entry of a final judgment as to the Defendants; and
- (j) containing such other and further provisions consistent with the terms of this Agreement to which the parties expressly consent in writing.

Class Counsel shall provide Defendants' counsel with a draft of the motion for final approval at least five (5) business days prior to filing.

16. **Stay Following Motion for Preliminary Approval.** After the Settlement Agreement is presented to the Court for preliminary approval, the Parties shall cease all litigation activities in pursuing the Released Claims and any defenses related thereto other than those actions and activities necessary to effectuate the terms of this Settlement Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, in the event that the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order but

does not concurrently stay all proceedings in *Fontenot v. NCAA*, *et al.*, Case No. 1:2023-CV-03076 (D. Colo.) (as part of the Preliminary Approval Order or otherwise), this paragraph shall not operate to prohibit the Parties, or any one of them, from seeking an order from this Court, or the court presiding over the *Fontenot* matter, staying, dismissing, or otherwise resolving that case. The stay of litigation activities contemplated by this paragraph shall remain in effect unless and until the Court denies preliminary approval or final approval of this Settlement Agreement. Upon the date that the Court enters an order preliminarily approving this Settlement Agreement, Plaintiffs and Class Members shall be barred and enjoined from commencing, instituting, or continuing to prosecute any action or any proceeding in any court of law or equity, arbitration tribunal, administrative forum, or other forum of any kind worldwide based on the Released Claims.

- 17. **Time to Appeal.** The time to appeal from an approval of this Settlement Agreement shall commence upon the Court's entry of the Judgment, regardless of whether or not an application for attorneys' fees and expenses has been submitted to the Court or resolved.
- 18. **Impact of Appeal.** The Injunctive Relief Settlement shall be effective as of the date of entry of the Final Approval Order, regardless of any appeal that may be taken of any or all of the Settlement Agreement, Final Approval Order, or Judgment in this Action or the settlement in *Hubbard*. In the event of an appeal of any or all of the Settlement Agreement, Final Approval Order, or Judgment in this Action or *Hubbard* the Injunctive Relief Fee and Expense Awards described in Paragraph 27 will be paid into the Escrow Account pursuant to that paragraph, and the settlement payments described in Paragraph 3 will be paid into the Escrow Account on the schedule set forth that paragraph. No payments shall be made to Class Members, Class Counsel, or Additional Counsel until all appeals of this Action and the *Hubbard* action have been exhausted and the judgment entered in each becomes final and non-appealable.

## E. Release of Injunctive Claims

19. **Released Injunctive Class Claims.** Upon and after the Effective Date, through the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term, the Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief

Settlement Class (regardless of whether any such Releasor ever seeks or obtains any recovery by any means) shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have fully, finally and forever released, relinquished and discharged all Released Injunctive Class Claims against the Releasees.

- 20. **No Future Actions Following Release.** The Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class shall not, after the Effective Date, seek (directly or indirectly) to commence, institute, maintain, or prosecute any suit, action, or complaint or collect from or proceed against the Defendants or any other Releasee (including pursuant to the Action) based on the Released Injunctive Class Claims in any forum worldwide, whether on his, her, or their own behalf or as part of any putative, purported, or certified class.
- 21. Covenant Not to Sue. The Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class covenant and agree that they, and each of them, will forever refrain from instituting, maintaining, prosecuting, or continuing to maintain or prosecute any suit or action, or collecting from, seeking to recover from, or proceeding against the Releasees in connection with any of the Released Injunctive Class Claims. Plaintiffs and their counsel acknowledge that Defendants consider it to be a material term of this Settlement Agreement that all Injunctive Relief Settlement Class Members will be bound by the provisions of this release; *provided*, *however*, that should there be a breach of this covenant not to sue by any member of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will cooperate with Defendants' efforts to seek the dismissal of any such claim or action. The Parties contemplate and agree that this Agreement may be pleaded as a bar to a lawsuit, and an injunction may be sought by the Parties, or any one of them, preventing any action from being initiated or maintained in any case sought to be prosecuted on behalf of any Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class with respect to the Released Injunctive Class Claims.
- 22. Waiver of California Civil Code §1542 and Similar Laws. The Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class acknowledge that, by executing this Agreement, and for the consideration received hereunder, it is their intention to release, and

22

24

25

27

26

28

they are releasing, all Released Injunctive Class Claims, even Unknown Claims. In furtherance of this intention, the Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class expressly waive and relinquish, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any rights or benefits conferred by the provisions of California Civil Code §1542, as set forth in Paragraph 1(pp), or equivalent, similar, or comparable law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law or any law or principle of law of any jurisdiction that would limit or restrict the effect or scope of the provisions of the releases set forth in this Settlement Agreement. The Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class acknowledge and hereby expressly waive and release with respect to the Released Injunctive Class Claims any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by California Civil Code §1542 or by any equivalent, similar or comparable law or principle of law in any jurisdiction. The Releasors who are members of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Class may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those which they know or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Injunctive Class Claims, but these Releasors hereby expressly waive and fully, finally and forever settle and release any known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, foreseen or unforeseen, asserted or un-asserted, contingent or non-contingent, and accrued or unaccrued claim, loss, or damage with respect to the Released Injunctive Class Claims, whether or not concealed or hidden, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such additional or different facts. The release of unknown, unanticipated, unsuspected, unforeseen, and unaccrued losses or claims in this paragraph is contractual and not a mere recital.

#### F. **Release of Damages Claims**

- 23. Released Damages Claims. Upon the Effective Date, the Releasors who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes (regardless of whether any such Releasor ever seeks or obtains any recovery by any means) shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have fully, finally and forever released, relinquished and discharged all Released Damages Class Claims against the Releasees.
  - 24. No Future Actions Following Release. The Releasors who are members of the

26

27

28

Damages Settlement Classes shall not, after the Effective Date, seek (directly or indirectly) to commence, institute, maintain, or prosecute any suit, action or complaint or collect from or proceed against the Defendants or any other Releasee (including pursuant to the Action) based on the Released Damages Class Claims in any forum worldwide, whether on his, her, or their own behalf or as part of any putative, purported, or certified class.

- 25. Covenant Not to Sue. The Releasors who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes covenant and agree that they, and each of them, will forever refrain from instituting, maintaining, prosecuting, or continuing to maintain or prosecute any suit or action, or collecting from, seeking to recover from, or proceeding against the Releasees in connection with any of the Released Damages Class Claims. Plaintiffs and their counsel acknowledge that Defendants consider it to be a material term of this Settlement Agreement that all Class Members who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes will be bound by the provisions of this release; provided, however, that should there be a breach of this covenant not to sue by any member of the Damages Settlement Class, Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will cooperate with Defendants' efforts to seek the dismissal of any such claim or action. The Parties contemplate and agree that this Agreement may be pleaded as a bar to a lawsuit, and an injunction may be sought by the Parties, or any one of them, preventing any action from being initiated or maintained in any case sought to be prosecuted on behalf of any Releasors who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes with respect to the Released Damages Class Claims. Claimants on the Gross Settlement Fund shall execute a release of the Releasees as a condition precedent to receipt of any part of the Gross Settlement Fund, but the failure of any claimant to execute such a release shall not in any way affect the validity of the release provided in this paragraph, and they shall nonetheless be bound by the terms of such release.
- 26. Waiver of California Civil Code §1542 and Similar Laws. The Releasors who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes acknowledge that, by executing this Agreement, and for the consideration received hereunder, it is their intention to release, and they are releasing, all Released Damages Class Claims, even Unknown Claims. In furtherance

24 25

26 27

28

of this intention, the Releasors who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes expressly waive and relinquish, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any rights or benefits conferred by the provisions of California Civil Code §1542, as set forth in Paragraph 1(00), or equivalent, similar, or comparable law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law or any law or principle of law of any jurisdiction that would limit or restrict the effect or scope of the provisions of the releases set forth in this Settlement Agreement. The Releasors hereby expressly waive and release with respect to the Released Damages Class Claims any and all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by California Civil Code §1542 or by any equivalent, similar or comparable law or principle of law in any jurisdiction. The Releasors who are members of the Damages Settlement Classes may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those which they know or believe to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Damages Class Claims, but these Releasors hereby expressly waive and fully, finally and forever settle and release any known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, foreseen or unforeseen, asserted or un-asserted, contingent or non-contingent, and accrued or unaccrued claim, loss, or damage with respect to the Released Damages Class Claims, whether or not concealed or hidden, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such additional or different facts. The release of unknown, unanticipated, unsuspected, unforeseen, and unaccrued losses or claims in this paragraph is contractual and not a mere recital.

#### F. Attorneys' Fees & Expenses

### 27. Injunctive Relief Fee and Expense Awards.

- Class Counsel shall have the right to apply to the Court for, and Defendants shall (a) not oppose, an upfront injunctive fee and cost award of \$20 million, which, if approved, shall be paid for by Defendants within forty-five (45) days of entry of the Court's Order pursuant to Paragraph 27(d) below.
- For so long as this Agreement remains in effect without material modification, Class Counsel may apply to the Court, or a special master appointed by the Court, for an award of a percentage of the total amount spent by Division I Member Institutions under the Pool (as

defined in Appendix A hereto) for each Academic Year. That percentage shall start at 0.75% and increase by 0.25% no more than three (3) times when the Pool is reset pursuant to Article 3 Section 1(f)-(h) of Appendix A, irrespective of how many times the Pool is reset during the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term. Defendants reserve the right to oppose any such application but agree not to unreasonably oppose any such application for so long as the Injunctive Relief Settlement remains in effect without material modification. Any such amount that is approved by the Court or special master will be paid to Class Counsel by Defendants and counted against the Pool as follows: Defendants shall pay to Class Counsel the amount approved by the Court in accordance with this Paragraph within forty-five (45) days of entry of the Court's Order awarding any such amounts, subject to Paragraph 27(d) below. That amount will then be deducted from the Pool for the following Academic Year. All fees paid under this provision shall be equally divided between Class Counsel *i.e.*, Hagens Berman and Winston & Strawn.

- master appointed by the Court, each Academic Year of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term to compensate Class Counsel based on their reasonable hourly fees and costs for their ongoing work in monitoring and enforcing compliance with this Agreement. Defendants reserve the right to oppose any such application but agree not to unreasonably oppose any such application for so long as the Injunctive Relief Settlement remains in effect without material modification. All such fees and costs will be paid by the Defendants and not be deducted from the Pool. Defendants shall pay to Class Counsel the amount approved by the Court in accordance with this Paragraph within forty-five (45) days of entry of the Court's Order awarding any such amounts, subject to Paragraph 27(d) below. Any such application and award shall be independent of and considered separately from any of the applications or awards described in sections (a) or (b) of this Paragraph.
- (d) Prior to the Effective Date, any Injunctive Fee and Expense Awards payable under Paragraphs 27(a) and 27(b) shall be deposited into the Escrow Account, and paid to Class Counsel, plus any interest that may accrue, within ten (10) days of the Effective Date.

- (e) No Injunctive Fee and Expense Awards shall be paid to Class Counsel prior to the Effective Date. In no event shall Defendants or any other of the Releasees be liable to pay any fees, expenses, costs, or interest in connection with the Injunctive Relief Settlement, except to the extent they are approved by the Court.
- (f) All of the above fee and expense applications and awards shall be independent of and considered separately from any fee or costs award that Class Counsel may seek with respect to the settlements of the damages claims in this Action or in any other action.
- 28. **Damages Fee and Expense Awards**. Class Counsel may submit an application or applications for distributions from the Gross Settlement Fund for: (a) an award of attorneys' fees; plus (b) reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with prosecuting the Action; plus (c) any interest on such attorneys' fees and expenses (until paid), as appropriate, and as may be awarded by the Court. Defendants reserve the right to object to any fee application.
- 29. No Damages Fee and Expense Awards shall be paid prior to the Effective Date. In no event shall Defendants or any other of the Releasees be liable to pay any fees, expenses, costs, or interest in connection with the settlement of the monetary damages claims of the Damages Settlement Classes, except to the extent they are approved by the Court and paid out of the Gross Settlement Fund.
- 30. Award of Fees and Expenses Not Part of Settlement. The procedure for, and the allowance or disallowance by the Court of, the fee and expense applications described in Paragraphs 27-29 ("Fee and Expense Applications") are not part of the settlement set forth in this Agreement and are to be considered by the Court separately from the Court's consideration of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the settlement set forth in this Agreement. Any order or proceedings relating to the Fee and Expense Applications, or any appeal from any Fee and Expense Award or any other order relating thereto or reversal or modification thereof, shall not operate to terminate or cancel this Agreement, or affect or delay the finality of the Judgment and the settlement of the Action as set forth herein. No order of the Court or modification or reversal on appeal of any order of the Court concerning any Fee and Expense Award or

Distribution Plan shall constitute grounds for cancellation or termination of this Agreement.

- 31. **Other Fees and Expenses.** Except as otherwise provided in this Settlement Agreement, each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees.
  - G. <u>Conditions of Settlement, Effect of Disapproval, Cancellation or</u>

    Termination
- 32. **Effective Date.** The Effective Date of this Agreement shall be conditioned on the occurrence of all of the following events:
  - (a) Defendants no longer have any right to terminate this Agreement or if they do have such right, they have given written notice to Class Counsel that they will not exercise such right;
  - (b) the Court has finally approved the settlement as described herein, following notice to the Classes and a hearing, as prescribed by Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and has entered the Judgment; and
  - the Judgment has become "Final" meaning, that such order represents a final and binding determination of all issues within its scope and is not subject to further review on appeal or otherwise. Without limitation, the Judgment becomes "Final" when: (a) no appeal has been filed and the prescribed time for commencing any appeal has expired; or (b) an appeal has been filed and either (i) the appeal has been dismissed and the prescribed time, if any, for commencing any further appeal has expired, or (ii) the Judgment has been affirmed in its entirety and the prescribed time, if any, for commencing any further appeal has expired. For purposes of this Agreement, an "appeal" includes appeals as of right, discretionary appeals, interlocutory appeals, proceedings involving writs of certiorari or mandamus, and any other proceedings of like kind. Any appeal or other proceeding pertaining solely to any order issued with respect to an application for attorneys' fees and expenses consistent with this Agreement, shall not in any way delay or preclude the Judgment from becoming Final. It is agreed

that in determining the times for appeal, further appeal, or review, the provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 60 and of the All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651, shall not be taken into account.

If all of these conditions are not met, then this Agreement shall be terminated, subject to and in accordance with Paragraphs 33-38.

- 33. Conditions Precedent to the Effective Date/Termination. The Effective Date also shall be conditioned on the Parties reaching a full settlement agreement resolving the damages claims in *Hubbard* and that agreement being fully and finally approved by the Court and judgment in favor of Defendants in that matter becoming Final. Further, in the event the opt-out percentage thresholds in Paragraph 37(c) and/or those in the *Hubbard* settlement agreement are exceeded, Defendants may, in their sole discretion, elect to terminate this Agreement as well, provided that Defendants exercise such a termination right within forty-five (45) days of receiving a final report from Class Counsel as to the number of Opt-Outs for the Damages Settlement Classes in this Action and in *Hubbard*.
- 34. **Effect of Disapproval.** If the Court refuses, preliminarily or otherwise, to approve the settlement or this Settlement Agreement or any part hereof, or if such approval is modified or set aside on appeal, or if the Court does not enter the Judgment provided for in Paragraph 15 hereof, or if the Court enters the Judgment and appellate review is sought and, on such review, such Judgment is not affirmed in its entirety, Defendants and Class Counsel shall, at their sole discretion, each have the option to rescind, cancel, and terminate this Settlement Agreement (excepting Paragraphs 35, 39-41, 45, and 61 hereof). Similarly, if the Court refuses to preliminarily approve Defendants' settlements or settlement agreements (or any part thereof) in *Hubbard*, or if the Court does not enter the Judgment in *Hubbard*, or if the Court enters the Judgment and appellate review is sought and, on such review, such Judgment is not affirmed in its entirety, Defendants shall, at their sole discretion, have the option to rescind, cancel, and terminate this Settlement Agreement (excepting Paragraphs 35, 39-41, 45, and 61 hereof).
  - 35. Effect of Termination. In any event that this Agreement is terminated, this

Agreement in its entirety shall be void and shall have no force or effect and shall be without prejudice to the rights and contentions of Releasees and Releasors in this or any other litigation. Any amounts expended for Notice and Administrative Costs and Injunctive Notice Costs are not recoverable if this settlement does not become final or is terminated.

- 36. **Objections.** Class Members who wish to object to any aspect of the settlement contained in this Settlement Agreement must file with the Court a written statement containing a description of the basis for their objection by the end of the period to object to the settlement that will be set by the Court.
- 37. **Exclusions.** Any Class Member who wishes to opt out of the Damages Settlement Classes must do so on or before the exclusion/objection deadline specified in the notice to Class Members (the "Exclusion/Objection Deadline").
  - (a) In order to become an Opt-Out, a Class Member must complete and send to the Notice and Claims Administrator a request for exclusion that is post-marked no later than the Exclusion/Objection Deadline. The request for exclusion must include any information specified in the notices to the Classes. Opt-Outs may opt out of the Class only on an individual basis; so-called "mass" or "class" opt-outs shall not be allowed and shall be of no force or effect.
  - (b) Class Counsel shall cause copies of requests for exclusion from the Classes to be provided to Defendants' counsel. No later than fourteen (14) days after the Exclusion/Objection Deadline, Class Counsel shall provide to Defendants' counsel a complete and final list of Opt-Outs. With the motion for final approval of the settlement, Class Counsel will file with the Court a complete list of Opt-Outs, including the name, city, and state of the person requesting exclusion and the college or university he or she attended (the "Opt-Out List"). With respect to any Opt-Outs, Defendants reserve all of their legal rights and defenses, including, but not limited to, any defenses relating to whether the person qualifies as a Class Member and/or has standing to bring any claim.

- Opt-Outs equals or exceeds of the total combined number of Class Members and Opt-Outs. After meeting and conferring with Class Counsel, Defendants may elect to terminate this Agreement by serving written notice on Class Counsel by email and overnight courier and by filing a copy of such notice with the Court no later than thirty (30) days before the date for the final approval hearing of this Agreement, except that Defendants shall have a minimum of ten (10) days in which to decide whether to terminate this Agreement after receiving the final Opt-Out List.
- 38. **Termination Consequences.** Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, in the event that the Effective Date does not occur or this Agreement should terminate, or be cancelled, or otherwise fail to become effective for any reason, including, without limitation, in the event that Defendants elect to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Paragraphs 33-34:
  - (a) the Parties shall be restored to their respective positions in the Action as of the Execution Date, with all of their respective claims and defenses preserved as they existed on that date;
  - (b) the Escrow Agent shall, within ten (10) business days of termination of the Settlement Agreement, refund all amounts in the Escrow Account, less any expenditures authorized pursuant to Paragraphs 4-5 of this Settlement Agreement that were incurred prior to termination, to Defendants and the Escrow Account shall be closed;
  - (c) the terms and provisions of this Agreement, with the exception of Paragraphs 35 39-41, 45, and 61 (which shall continue in full force and effect), shall be null and void and shall have no further force or effect with respect to the Parties, and neither the existence nor the terms of this Agreement (nor any negotiations preceding this Agreement nor any acts performed pursuant to, or in furtherance of, this Agreement) shall be used in the Action or in any other action or proceeding

for any purpose (other than to enforce the terms remaining in effect);

- (d) any judgment or order entered by the Court in accordance with the terms of this Agreement shall be treated as vacated, nunc pro tunc; and
- (e) the Court shall set a new schedule for the Action.

#### Н. No Admission of Liability

- 39. Final and Complete Resolution. The Parties intend the settlement as described in this Settlement Agreement to be a final and complete resolution of all disputes between them with respect to the Action and Released Claims and to compromise claims that are contested, and it shall not be deemed an admission by any Party as to the merits of any claim or defense or any allegation made in the Action. Without limiting the foregoing, for the avoidance of doubt, Defendants deny any liability in connection with Plaintiffs' claims in the Action and this Agreement may not be construed to be an admission of liability or wrongdoing by Defendants in this Action or any other action or proceeding.
- 40. **Federal Rule of Evidence 408.** The Parties agree that this Agreement, its terms and the negotiations surrounding this Agreement and any earlier agreements between the Parties shall be governed by Federal Rule of Evidence 408 and shall not be admissible or offered or received into evidence in any suit, action, or other proceeding, except upon the written agreement of the Parties hereto, pursuant to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or as shall be necessary to give effect to, declare, or enforce the rights of the Parties with respect to any provision of this Agreement.
- 41. Use of Agreement as Evidence. Neither this Agreement, nor negotiations related thereto, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of this Agreement: (a) is or may be deemed to be or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, the validity of any Released Claims, any allegation made in the Action, or any wrongdoing or liability of the Defendants; or (b) is or may be deemed to be or may be used as an admission of, or evidence of, any liability, fault, or omission of the Releasees in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal. Neither this

Agreement, nor negotiations related thereto, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of this Agreement, shall be admissible in any proceeding for any purpose, except as to enforce the terms of this Agreement, and except that the Releasees may file this Agreement and/or the Judgment in any action for any purpose, including, but not limited to, in order to support a defense or counterclaim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, release, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or counterclaim, and/or to seek the transfer to this Court of, or enjoin, any action purporting to assert any Released Claims. The limitations described in this paragraph apply whether or not the Court enters the Preliminary Approval Order, the Final Approval Order, or the Judgment.

## I. <u>Miscellaneous Provisions</u>

- 42. **Modifications.** Absent materially changed circumstances (for example, without limitation, Paragraph 37(c)), Plaintiffs (including any new named plaintiffs) and Defendants agree not to seek to modify the settlement structure for the duration of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term.
- 43. **Voluntary Settlement.** The Parties agree that the terms of the settlement as described in this Agreement were negotiated in good faith by the Parties under the supervision of an experienced mediator and reflect a settlement that was reached voluntarily after consultation with competent legal counsel.
- 44. **Consent to Jurisdiction.** Defendants, Plaintiffs, and each Class Member hereby irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court only for the specific purpose of any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the applicability of this Agreement. Solely for purposes of such suit, action, or proceeding, to the fullest extent that they may effectively do so under applicable law, Defendants, Plaintiffs, and the Class Members irrevocably waive and agree not to assert, by way of motion, as a defense or otherwise, any claim or objection that they are not subject to the jurisdiction of the Court or that the Court is in any way an improper venue or an inconvenient forum. Without limiting the

25

26

27

28

generality of the foregoing, it is hereby agreed that any dispute concerning the provisions of Paragraphs 19-26 hereof, including but not limited to any suit, action, or proceeding in which the provisions of Paragraphs 19-26 hereof are asserted as a defense in whole or in part to any claim or cause of action or otherwise raised as an objection, constitutes a suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement. In the event that the provisions of Paragraphs 19-26 hereof are asserted by any Releasee as a defense in whole or in part to any claim or cause of action or otherwise raised as an objection in any suit, action, or proceeding, it is hereby agreed that such Releasee shall be entitled to a stay of that suit, action, or proceeding until the Court has entered a judgment no longer subject to any appeal or review determining any issues relating to the defense or objection based on the provisions of Paragraphs 19-26. Nothing herein shall be construed as a submission to jurisdiction for any purpose other than any suit, action, proceeding, or dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the applicability of this Agreement.

- 45. Resolution of Disputes; Retention of Exclusive Jurisdiction. Any disputes between or among Defendants and Plaintiffs or any Class Members concerning matters contained in this Agreement shall, if they cannot be resolved by negotiation and agreement, be submitted to the Court. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to resolve all disputes that may arise concerning compliance with, the validity of, interpretation, or enforcement of the terms and conditions of the settlement, including through appointment of a special master whose decisions shall be appealable to the Court. All such claims asserted on behalf of student-athletes shall be prosecuted exclusively by Class Counsel except as expressly provided herein.
- 46. Future Division I Student-Athlete Proceedings. Any and all claims by any Division I student-athlete seeking to challenge the structure or otherwise modify the Injunctive Relief Settlement, or alleging antitrust or other violations of law based on Defendant's implementation of the Injunctive Relief Settlement, must, to the fullest extent legally permissible, be asserted exclusively in the Action. All Division I student-athletes during the Injunctive Relief Settlement Term will receive notice of this settlement and their rights under it

in a form approved by Class Counsel and the Court. If and to the extent any new claim against Defendants for complying with the terms of the Injunctive Relief Settlement is asserted by a Division I student-athlete in any venue other than the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California seeking to invalidate or recover damages based upon Defendant's implementation of the Injunctive Relief Settlement, the Parties shall join in appropriate filings to have the new claim enjoined (or, should an injunction be unavailable, stayed and transferred to the Northern District of California) for consolidation with the Action for all purposes.

- 47. **Other Litigations.** The Parties shall work cooperatively to ensure that the claims raised in any other lawsuits that have been or may be brought challenging NCAA compensation or benefit rules addressed by this Settlement Agreement are enjoined (or, should an injunction be unavailable, stayed) pending final approval of this Settlement Agreement.
- 48. **Class Counsel Enforcement.** Class Counsel shall have the authority to exclusively monitor and enforce the Injunctive Relief Settlement throughout the Term as provided therein.
- 49. **Binding Effect.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their heirs, executors, administrators, representatives, agents, successors, and assigns and any corporation into or with which any corporate party hereto may merge or consolidate. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, each and every covenant and agreement herein by Plaintiffs and Class Counsel shall be binding upon all Class Members.
- 50. **Intended Beneficiaries**. No provision of this Settlement Agreement shall provide any rights to, or be enforceable by, any person or entity that is not a Plaintiff, Class Member, a Releasee, or Class Counsel. No Plaintiff, Class Member, Defendant, or Class Counsel may assign or otherwise convey any right to enforce any provision of this Settlement Agreement.
- 51. **Authorization to Enter Agreement.** Each of the undersigned representatives of Defendants represents that he or she is fully authorized to enter into and to execute this Agreement on behalf of each respective Defendant. Class Counsel, on behalf of Plaintiffs and

the Classes, represent that they are, subject to Court approval, expressly authorized to take all action required or permitted to be taken by or on behalf of the Classes pursuant to this Agreement to effectuate its terms and to enter into and execute this Agreement and any modifications or amendments to the Agreement on behalf of Plaintiffs and the Classes that they deem appropriate.

- 52. **No Conflict Intended.** Any inconsistency between this Settlement Agreement and the Appendices attached hereto shall be resolved in favor of this Settlement Agreement. The headings used in this Agreement are intended for the convenience of the reader only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- 53. **Mutual Drafting.** None of the parties hereto shall be deemed to be the drafter of this Agreement or any provision hereof for the purpose of any statute, case law, rule of interpretation or construction that would or might cause any provision to be construed against the drafter hereof.
- 54. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be considered to have been negotiated, executed and delivered, and to be wholly performed, under federal common law, and the rights and obligations of the parties to this Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, federal common law.
- 55. **Amendment; Waiver.** This Agreement shall not be modified in any respect except by a writing executed by all of the Defendants and Class Counsel and approved by the Court, and the waiver of any rights conferred hereunder shall be effective only if made by written instrument of the waiving party. The waiver by any party of any breach of this Agreement shall not be deemed or construed as a waiver of any other breach, whether prior, subsequent, or contemporaneous, of this Agreement.
- 56. **Integrated Agreement.** This Settlement Agreement (and its appendices) contains an entire, complete, and integrated statement of each and every term and provision agreed to by the Parties hereto, and is not subject to any condition not provided for herein. This Settlement Agreement supersedes any and all prior and contemporaneous undertakings of

Plaintiffs and Defendants in connection herewith. The Class Members, Class Counsel, and Defendants, or any of them, may hereafter discover facts other than or different from those that he, she, they, or it knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of this settlement, but the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts shall have no bearing on the validity of this Settlement Agreement once executed and shall not serve as a basis for any Party to challenge or otherwise seek to rescind, terminate, or cancel the settlement.

- 57. **Execution in Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts. All executed counterparts and each of them shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument. Counsel for the Parties to this Agreement shall exchange among themselves signed counterparts and a complete set of executed counterparts shall be filed with the Court.
- 58. **Appendices.** All of the appendices hereto are an integral part of this Agreement and of the agreement of the Parties thereto.
- 59. **Public Disclosure.** Except for disclosure required by law, the Parties will consult with each other with a view towards coordinating the timing of any public disclosure concerning the fact that this Settlement Agreement has been reached or the terms of this Agreement.
- 60. **Notices.** All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing. Each such notice shall be given either by (a) e-mail; (b) hand delivery; (c) registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage pre-paid; (d) FedEx or similar overnight courier; or (e) facsimile and first class mail, postage pre-paid and, if directed to any Class Member, shall be addressed to Class Counsel at their addresses set forth below, and if directed to Defendants, shall be addressed to their attorneys at the addresses set forth below or such other addresses as Class Counsel or Defendants may designate, from time to time, by giving notice to all parties hereto in the manner described in this paragraph.

If to Class Counsel, address notice to:

Steve W. Berman HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP 1301 Second Avenue, Suite 2000

1	Seattle, WA, 98101 steve@hbslaw.com
2	steve@nosiaw.com
3	Jeffrey L. Kessler
4	David Greenspan WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
	200 Park Avenue
5	New York, NY 10166-4193 jkessler@winston.com
6	dgreenspan@winston.com
7	
8	If to Defendants, address notice to:
9	National Collegiate Athletic Association
10	Scott Bearby
10	Senior Vice President of Legal Affairs and General Counsel 1802 Alonzo Watford St. Drive
11	Indianapolis, IN 46202
12	sbearby@ncaa.org
13	With a copy to:
14	Rakesh N. Kilaru
15	WILKINSON STEKLOFF LLP
	2001 M Street NW, 10th Floor Washington, DC 20036
16	rkilaru@wilkinsonstekloff.com
17	Adjantia Caart Confession
18	Atlantic Coast Conference c/o Pearlynn G. Houck
10	General Counsel
19	620 South Tryon Street, Suite1200
20	Charlotte, NC 28202 phouck@theacc.org
21	phodenous
22	With a copy to:
	Christopher S. Yates
23	LATHAM & WATKINS LLP
24	505 Montgomery Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, CA 94111
25	chris.yates@lw.com
26	The Big Ten Conference, Inc.
27	c/o Anil Gollahalli Chief Legal Officer & General Counsel
28	Chief Legal Officer & General Counsel 5440 Park Place
20	

1	Rosemont, IL 60018
2	agollahalli@bigten.org
3	With a copy to:
4	Britt M. Miller
5	MAYER BROWN LLP 71 South Wacker Drive
6	Chicago, IL 60606 bmiller@mayerbrown.com
7	The Big 12 Conference, Inc.
8	c/o Jessica Presnall
	Chief Legal & Business Affairs Officer
9	400 East John Carpenter Freeway
10	Irving, TX 75062 jpresnall@big12sports.com
11	With a copy to:
12	with a copy to.
13	Angela Zambrano and Natali Wyson SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
	2021 McKinney Ave.
14	Suite 2000
15	Dallas, TX 75201
	angela.zambrano@sidley.com
16	nwyson@sidley.com
17	Pac-12 Conference
18	c/o Scott Petersmeyer General Counsel, SVP
	12647 Alcosta Blvd., 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor
19	San Ramon, CA 94583
20	SPetersmeyer@pac-12.org
21	With a copy to:
22	Whitty Somvichian
23	COOLEY LLP
	3 Embarcadero Center, 20th Floor
24	San Francisco, California 94111-4004 wsomvichian@cooley.com
25	
26	Southeastern Conference c/o William H. King, III
27	Associate Commissioner/Legal Affairs & Compliance
	2201 Richard Arrington Boulevard North
28	Birmingham, AL 35203

1 wking@sec.org 2 With a copy to: 3 Robert W. Fuller, III ROBINSON BRADSHAW & HINSON, P.A. 4 101 N. Tryon Street, Suite 1900 5 Charlotte, NC 28246 rfuller@robinsonbradshaw.com 6 - and -7 Katie A. Reilly 8 WHEELER TRIGG O'DONNELL LLP 9 370 Seventeenth Street, Suite 4500 Denver, CO 80202 10 reilly@wtotrial.com 11 or to such other persons or addresses as the Parties hereto may designate in writing. 12 61. Confidential Materials. The Parties agree to comply with Paragraphs 19-20 of 13 Exhibit A to the Protective Order entered in the Action (see ECF No. 136) at the conclusion of 14 the Action. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

## Case 4:20-cv-03999-CW Document 235-1 Filed 09/26/24 Page 44 of 325

1	IN V	VITNESS	WHEREOF,	the	parties	hereto,	through	their	fully	authorized
2			ecuted this Ag						J	
3	1	,	S							
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										
15										
16										
17										
18										
19										
20										
21										
22										
23										
<ul><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>										
26										
20 27										
28										
_0										

## Case 4:20-cv-03999-CW Document 235-1 Filed 09/26/24 Page 48 of 325

1		PLAINTIFFS' CLASS COUNSEL, on behalf of Plaintiffs individually and on behalf of the Classes
2	D. 1777 G 1 . 0.6 2024	
3	DATED: September 26, 2024	HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP
4		By:
5		Steve W. Berman
6		Steve W. Berman ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP
7		1301 Second Avenue, Suite 2000
8		steve@hbsslaw.com
9		
10	DATED: September 26, 2024	WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
11		
12		By: Jeffrey L. Kessler
13		
14		Jeffrey L. Kessler ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) David Greenspan ( <i>pro hac vice</i> )
15		David G. Feher (pro hac vice)
		Adam I. Dale ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) 200 Park Avenue
16		New York, NY 10166-4193
17		Telephone: 212-294-6700 Facsimile: 212-294-4700
18		jkessler@winston.com
19		dgreenspan@winston.com dfeher@winston.com
20		aidale@winston.com
21		Jeanifer Parsigian WINSTON & STRAWN LLP
22		101 California Street, 34th Floor
23		San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 591-1000 Facsimile: (415) 591-1400
24		jparsigian@winston.com
25		
26		
27		
28		

#### Case 4:20-cv-03999-CW Document 235-1 Filed 09/26/24 Page 40 of 325 1 PLAINTIFFS' CLASS COUNSEL, on behalf of Plaintiffs individually and on behalf of the Classes 2 DATED: September 26, 2024 HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP 3 4 By: Steve W. Berman 5 6 Steve W. Berman (pro hac vice) HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP 7 1301 Second Avenue, Suite 2000 steve@hbsslaw.com 8 9 10 DATED: September 26, 2024 WINSTON & STRAWN LLP 11 12 Jeffrey/ 13 Jeffrey L. Kessler (pro hac vice) David Greenspan (pro hac vice) 14 David G. Feher (pro hac vice) 15 Adam I. Dale (pro hac vice) 200 Park Avenue 16 New York, NY 10166-4193 Telephone: 212-294-6700 17 Facsimile: 212-294-4700 18 jkessler@winston.com dgreenspan@winston.com 19 dfeher@winston.com aidale@winston.com 20 Jeanifer Parsigian 21 WINSTON & STRAWN LLP 101 California Street, 34th Floor 22 San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 591-1000 23 Facsimile: (415) 591-1400 jparsigian@winston.com 24 25 26

27

28

DEFENDANT NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DATED: September 26, 2024 Rakesh N. Kilaru (pro hac vice) Rakesh Kilaru Cali Arat WILKINSON STEKLOFF LLP 2001 M Street NW, 10th Floor Washington, DC 20036 rkilaru@wilkinsonstekloff.com carat@wilkinsonstekloff.com 

# DEFENDANT ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

DATED: September 26, 2024

By: Christopher S. Yates (SBN 161273) LATHAM & WATKINS LLP 505 Montgomery Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, CA 94111 chris.yates@lw.com

### Case 4:26-cv-03999-CW Document 235-1 Filed 09/26/24 Page 59 of 325

DEFENDANT THE BIG TEN CONFERENCE, INC. DATED: September 26, 2024 Britt M. Miller (pro hac vice MAYER BROWN LLP 71 South Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606 bmiller@mayerbrown.com 

1 2	DEFENDANT THE BIG 12 CONFERENCE, INC.	
3	DATED: September 26, 2024	
4	h C 1	
5	By: Natali Wyson	
6		
7	Angela Zambrano (pro hac vice) Natali Wyson (pro hac vice)	
8	SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP 2021 McKinney Ave.	
9	Suite 2000 Dallas, TX 75201	
10	angela.zambrano@sidley.com nwyson@sidley.com	
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26 27		
21		

Case 4:20-cv-03999-CW Document 235-1 Filed 09/26/24 Page 50 of 325

28

#### **DEFENDANT PAC-12 CONFERENCE**

DATED: September 26, 2024

COOLEY LLP

3 Embarcadero Center, 20th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-4004 wsomvichian@cooley.com

DATED: September 26, 2024

# DEFENDANT SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

By: /-

Robert W. Fuller, III

Robert W. Fuller III (pro hac vice) ROBINSON BRADSHAW & HINSON, P.A. 101 N. Tryon Street, Suite 1900 Charlotte, NC 28246 rfuller@robinsonbradshaw.com

Katie A. Reilly WHEELER TRIGG O'DONNELL LLP 370 Seventeenth Street, Suite 4500 Denver, CO 80202 reilly@wtotrial.com