



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S ACROBATICS AND TUMBLING COMMITTEE
MARCH 6, 13, 18 AND 23 AND APRIL 6 AND 14, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCES**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Introductions.** The committee and NCAA staff liaisons introduced themselves and acknowledged the excitement of establishing an NCAA Acrobatics and Tumbling Championship.
2. **Confidentiality.** NCAA staff informed the committee of the confidentiality policy.
3. **Governance structure overview.** The committee received an overview of the NCAA governance structure. As a National Collegiate championship, the committee reports to the Division I cabinet. Division II and Division III legislative issues would be referred to the appropriate divisional body.
4. **Chair election.** The committee elected Meg Sharp, associate director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Adrian College as chair.
5. **Championship format.**
 - a. **Selections process.** The committee requested staff work with the NCATA staff to present the current selection criteria and process on a future videoconference.
 - b. **Automatic qualification.** The committee received an update on automatic qualification. National Collegiate championships have a two-year waiting period for automatic qualification. The waiting period will begin the first year of the championship, so the earliest automatic qualification would be available to conferences would be the 2028-29 academic year. It was noted that the committee would need to recommend automatic qualification be implemented at the championship before any conference would be eligible. For example, beach volleyball did not add automatic qualification immediately after the two-year period.
 - c. **Date formula.** The committee discussed the current date formula (Thursday through Sunday, fourth weekend in April) and noted that it works well. The committee expressed concern with moving the championship earlier due a potential conflict with the NCAA gymnastics championships as well as any later, noting the impact on the length of the season and a desire to be completed before the end of the academic year. The committee received an update on date formula discussions for the NCAA Stunt Championship and noted no concerns with being on the same weekend if the NCAA Stunt Committee were to recommend the same data formula. The broadcast liaison will seek feedback from potential

broadcast partners noting a preference for the current date formula but a willingness to be flexible based on broadcast feedback and exposure opportunities.

- d. **Event format.** The committee noted that the current event format (i.e., three days of team competition followed by the event finals) seems to work well. The NCATA championship has tried various formats over the years and the committee agreed that the current format works the best. Currently, eight teams are selected. For the event finals, the top four from each discipline in the team quarterfinals advance in addition to one at-large team with the highest average season score on a team not selected. The committee will continue to discuss event format, including the event finals component.
 - e. **Squad size and travel party.** The committee discussed the current squad size of 28 athletes and noted that teams are permitted to change the 28-person roster each day of the NCATA championship, although that is rare. Additionally, the committee discussed the impact of a larger travel party on travel logistics, including the cost of potential charter flights and impact on the championship budget. The committee agreed to review data from the 2026 NCATA Championship before finalizing a recommendation for the squad size and travel party numbers.
 - f. **Timeline for approval.** The committee discussed the timeline for approval. It is anticipated the committee will make a recommendation on the format and travel party size on the May 18 videoconference for consideration on the May 27 Division I Cabinet Subcommittee videoconference.
6. **Playing rules process.** The committee received an update on the playing rules process. Sports that transition from the emerging sports program to championship status will continue to have the playing rules governed by the existing organization, with an opportunity for NCAA-specific modifications. The championship manager and the acrobatics and tumbling playing rules liaison will meet with the applicable NCATA staff to review the playing rules structure and discuss opportunities to collaborate, including the call for proposals process.
 7. **Budget.** Staff provided an overview of the budget previously approved by the Division I governance structure when the recommendation was made to establish the NCAA championship. While the committee has flexibility within the established budget to amend base assumptions, the championship must stay within the approved budget. It was noted that there will be additional one-time funds available to celebrate the inaugural championship and the committee was encouraged to think of potential opportunities to utilize those funds.
 8. **Legislative issues.** At the request of the Division I Cabinet, the committee provided feedback on the Division I foreign tour legislation. The committee shared that foreign tours are not currently taking place in acrobatics and tumbling but would support that decision making occurring at the institutional level as opposed to having national legislation governing the frequency of foreign tours.

9. **Site selection and bid specs.** Staff provided an overview of the NCAA bid process, including the hotel contracting process. It was noted that initially bids will be sought for the 2027 and 2028 championships. It is anticipated that the 2029-31 championships will be included in the upcoming bid cycle with most other NCAA championships. The committee reviewed draft bid specs, including facility requirements and hotel requirements. The committee will discuss whether a banquet should be included as part of the event schedule at a future meeting.
10. **Site visit.** Staff noted that the championship manager and committee chair would attend the 2026 NCATA Championships in Azusa, California to further understand how the current event operates and opportunities to enhance the current experience for the first NCAA championship.
11. **Future meetings.** The committee reviewed future meeting dates and adjusted dates and times as needed. The committee will meet weekly for the foreseeable future.

Committee Chair: Meg Sharp, Adrian College
Staff Liaison: Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances
D.J. Brown, Governance and Member Services

NCAA Women's Acrobatics and Tumbling Committee March 6, 13, 18 and 23 and April 6 and 14, 2026, Videoconferences
Attendees:
Katie Armedure, Frostburg State University.
Luke Groth, Augustana University (South Dakota).
Felecia Mulkey, Baylor University.
Meg Sharp, Adrian College.
Alia Stark, Buffalo State, State University of New York.
Absentees:
Katie Harbert, University of Oregon (March 23 videoconference only).
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
D.J. Brown, Governance and Member Services.
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Kristin Fasbender (March 6 videoconference), Julie Kimmons (March 6 and April 14 videoconferences) Nancy O'Hara (contractor).