



**REPORT OF THE JOINT
NCAA DIVISION I BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES
NOVEMBER 5, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **NCAA Division I Governance update.** Jennifer Fraser, senior vice president of governance and member services, provided an update on key governance topics and changes to the Division I decision-making structure.
2. **Player availability.** Clint Hangebrauck, managing director for enterprise risk management, provided an update on sports betting and the implementation of player availability reporting at the conference level and in select Division I championships.
3. **Fifty percent seeding of the bracket – principles and approach.** The NCAA Division I Baseball and Softball Oversight Committees received an update on the process of selecting and seeding 50 percent of the championship bracket to be implemented for the 2026 championships.
4. **Diamond Sports Rankings.** The oversight committees discussed the possibility of using the Diamond Sports Ranking for selection. The Softball Oversight Committee reported it agreed to use the Diamond Sports Ranking as an additional resource for its selection process for the 2026 championship. The Baseball Oversight Committee discussed it further during its meeting and also agreed to use the Diamond Sports Ranking as an additional resource for its selections process for the 2026 championship.
5. **Video review announcements.** The committees received an update about Softball Oversight Committee discussions on video review announcements and the possibility of requiring video review announcements in order to serve as a host site for regional and super regional competitions. There was discussion about the infrastructure necessary to implement video review announcements at host sites. The Baseball and Softball Oversight Committees agreed to continue discussions on the topic before making it a requirement.
6. **Data and analytics.** The committees discussed data and analytics, including baseball's current agreement with TrackMan, the evaluation of umpires and best practices. Staff also discussed the use of multiple platforms for softball and noted there can be data disparities between technologies.
7. **Home/away designations.** The committees discussed the current designation formula of home/away teams during the championships.
8. **Updates from Baseball Oversight Committee.** The Baseball Oversight Committee provided updates on discussions that had taken place thus far from its November annual meeting, including their decision to adopt experimental rules for 2026 and to include representation

from all four autonomy conferences on the NCAA Division I Baseball Playing Rules Subcommittee.

9. **Updates from Softball Oversight Committee.** The Softball Oversight Committee provided updates from its August annual meeting and informed the Baseball Oversight Committee of its decision to increase the championship squad size from 22 to 25 to match the roster limit effective with the 2026 championship.
10. **Upcoming coaching association meetings.** The committees received an update on the American Baseball Coaches Association convention January 8-11, 2026, in Columbus, Ohio, and the National Fastpitch Coaches Association convention December 10-13, 2025, in Las Vegas.

BOC Chair: Michael Alford, Florida State University, Atlantic Coast Conference
SOC Chair: Natalie Gonzalez Honnen, Clemson University, Atlantic Coast Conference
Staff Liaisons: DJ Brown, Division I Governance and Member Services
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances
Randy L. Buhr, Championships and Alliances
Anthony Holman, Championships and Alliances
Jennifer Samble, Division I Governance and Member Services
Chad Tolliver, Championships and Alliances
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances
Kelly Whitaker, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Baseball and Softball Oversight Committee November 5, 2025, Joint Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Tara Brooks, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Southeastern Conference.	
Carol Bruggeman, National Fastpitch Coaches Association.	
Randy Bruns, baseball secretary-rules editor.	
Alexis DeBoer, University of Washington.	
Scott Dolson, Indiana University, Bloomington; Big Ten Conference.	
Tiffany Edlin, Long Beach State University.	
Ella Emmert, University of Kentucky.	
Jon Gilbert, East Carolina University; American Conference.	
Natalie Gonzalez Honnen, Clemson University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Jeff Gosney, national coordinator of baseball umpires.	
Tim Johnson, Oral Roberts University.	
Craig Keilitz, American Baseball Coaches Association.	
Jessica Leger, University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Sun Belt Conference.	
Scott Leykam, University of Portland.	

Jesse Martin, Oklahoma State University; Big 12 Conference.
Stacy Martin, Winthrop University.
Jeremy McClain, The University of Southern Mississippi; Sun Belt Conference.
Steven McCown, national coordinator of softball umpires.
Lori Perez, California State University, Sacramento.
Alex Piquero, University of Miami (Florida).
Randale L. Richmond, Kent State University.
Luke Russo, Farleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus.
Kevin Saal, Wichita State University; American Conference.
Paige Sayler, Central Michigan University.
Casey Scott, Kansas State University; Big 12 Conference.
Greg Seitz, Jacksonville State University; Conference USA.
Gina Stoll, Western Kentucky University; Conference USA.
Scott Stricklin, University of Florida; Southeastern Conference.
Troy Sudbrook, University of Toledo.
Vickie Van Kleeck, softball secretary-rules editor.
Holly Van Vlymen, South Dakota State University.
Jane Wagner, Northwestern University; Big Ten Conference.
Absentees:
Michael Alford, Florida State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Jaysoni Beachum, Florida State University.
Johnny Leutzow, Santa Clara University.
DeAmez Ross, University of Central Florida.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
DJ Brown, John Bugner, Randy L. Buhr, Anthony Holman, Jennifer Samble, Liz Turner Suscha, Chad Tolliver and Kelly Whitaker.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Sami Bogenschutz, Stanley Broaden, Ashlee Follis, Jenn Fraser, Clint Hangebrauck, Brandy Hataway, Matt Holmes, Blake Jacklin, Catherine Lant, Jay Jay Rackley, Jennifer Rodgers, Kristen Jacob (KJ) Smith and Jeff Williams.