



REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S BOWLING COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2025, VIRTUAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 11 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2025-26 academic year: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Conference Carolinas; Conference USA; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Northeast Conference; and Southwestern Athletic Conference.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Each conference meets the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.3 and completed the automatic qualification declaration form.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Continued opportunity for student-athletes to compete in the postseason.

b. Tournament match results.

- (1) Recommendation. Designate tournament match results as a primary selection criterion.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Through a two-year pilot program, the committee successfully used tournament match results as a secondary selection criterion. The selection criterion gave the committee more data to consider when comparing two teams that are relatively equal on both primary and secondary criteria.

Approximately 86% of bowling competitions take place in the tournament format. Therefore, the committee feels it is important to continue weighing those results within

the selection criteria given that tournament finishes are a primary measure of strength throughout the regular season. Additionally, lanes and lane conditions can vary from event to event, and this will continue to provide the committee with a criterion that compares teams competing at the same event on the same or similar lane conditions.

Teams would continue to be compared directly in tournaments in which both teams competed. If Team A and Team B competed at four of the same tournaments and Team B had a higher finish in three of those tournaments, Team B's head-to-head tournament finishes would be 3-1 as opposed to Team A's 1-3. If teams did not compete at any of the same tournaments, the criteria would not be applicable.

The committee feels that making this criterion a permanent primary criterion is most appropriate for the task of selecting teams for the championship and placing teams in the bracket.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Regular-season processes review.** The committee reviewed the annual correspondence memorandum that will be sent to the membership and made suggestions for edits. The updated memorandum, along with information on a rules change (see informational item No. 2) will be sent as soon as possible.

The committee also agreed to delay the preseason coaches' videoconference in order to provide a final update and review of the improvements being made the online score reporting process.

2. **Playing rules.** The committee discussed the recent rules change made by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) regarding the use of slow oil-absorbing high-performance bowling balls. Their ruling made these particular balls ineligible for use in their tournaments. NCAA women's bowling rules indicates the use of USBC approved balls in all competitions. Therefore, the committee voted to follow this change. Staff were instructed to include this information with the distribution of the preseason memorandum.
3. **Other business.** The committee agreed that due to delays in finalizing improvements to the score reporting process that teams will not receive warnings or fines in accordance with the originally approved submission timeline. The committee will continue to work with institutions to ensure schedules and scores are uploaded as soon as possible once new instructions and login information are provided.

Committee Chair: John Williamson, Vanderbilt University, Conference USA.
Staff Liaison(s): Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Women's Bowling Committee September 19, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Jody Fetterhoff, Duquesne University.	
Diane Jones, La Roche University.	
Ian Parisi, Molloy University.	
Adeanah Pooler, Southwestern Athletic Conference.	
Kimberly Sorenson, Marian University.	
John Williamson, Vanderbilt University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Michael Fine, Secretary-Rules Editor.	
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance	
Eric Breece.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance.	
Carla Laster.	