



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS COUNTRY  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
APRIL 1, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Report of the March 11, 2026, meeting.** The oversight committee approved the report of its March 11, 2026, meeting.
2. **NCAA Division I outdoor track and field championships scoring proposal.** The committee received a brief presentation on a new NCAA outdoor track and field championships scoring proposal from Charles Ryan, director of track and field and cross country at San Jose State University. The proposal included the recommendation that every athlete who qualifies from the first rounds to the finals site receive one point toward their team's total score. The committee will continue to discuss possible modifications to track and field team scoring.
3. **Countable competition for sport sponsorship in track and field.** The committee discussed the rules required to count competitions toward minimum sports sponsorship requirements for Division I indoor and outdoor track and field. The committee noted the current application required to count student-athletes competing at different meets over the same weekend may not reflect the realities of Division I track and field operations today. The committee will continue to discuss this application at future meetings and consider recommending an updated standard for the Division I Membership Committee to consider.
4. **Team tie break rule proposal for cross country.** The committee revisited conversation about modifying the team tie break rule voted on during its March meeting and subsequently submitted as a proposal to the playing rules subcommittee. Specifically, members discussed the situation when both tied teams finish with only five runners, and they elected to maintain their original recommendation to the playing rules subcommittee that in such a situation both teams would finish tied.
5. **Update on adoption of corporate and nonprofit logos on student-athlete uniforms, apparel and equipment.** The committee was informed that there is ongoing discussion at the playing rules subcommittee level, most notably on logo placement related to equipment.
6. **Rules subcommittee report.** Committee was informed that the window to submit rules proposals for the upcoming rules cycle closed on March 30. Forty-five rules proposals were

submitted for review. Additionally, the committee was informed World Athletics updated the Athletic Shoe Regulations to remove throwing events conducted from a circle from the scope of the regulations, therefore permitting athletes to wear the footwear of their choice.

7. **Indoor track and field technical manual review.** The committee reviewed the 2026 indoor track and field championships technical manual and made the following decisions:
  - a. In the pentathlon 800m and heptathlon 1000m the committee elected to maintain the current wording in the manual to have athlete starting positions be based on season bests in a pentathlon 800m and heptathlon 1000m, rather than being positioned based on their current place within the pentathlon or heptathlon event at the championship.
  - b. In the 60m and 60h races, the committee elected to adjust advancement to be the top three from each heat plus next best two times, rather than what is currently in the manual which is advance the top two from each heat plus next best four times.
  - c. The committee elected to add a note to the manual that in the 800m and mile, heat order will be assigned by lot.
8. **2026 cross country championships student-athlete gift.** The committee elected to pursue an enhanced student-athlete gift for the 2026 championships in place of a banquet at the championships site.
9. **Ground transportation restriction for cross country-only programs.** The committee received notice that the Division I Women's Volleyball Oversight Committee introduced a legislative proposal into the June 2026 legislative cycle to eliminate the restriction to ground transportation for travel to competition in the nonchampionship segment. Given that cross country-only programs have a similar limitation during the nonchampionship (spring) segment, the committee will consider whether to recommend the application be inclusive of such programs. The committee will return to this proposal during its May meeting.

*Committee Chair: Karina Handeland, University of Portland; West Coast Conference.*  
*Staff Liaisons: Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances and Jejuan Bowser, Connor Bush and Emily Capehart, Governance and Member Services.*

<b>NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Oversight Committee April 1, 2026, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Lindsey Anderson, Weber State University; Big Sky Conference.
Ritchie Beene, Alabama State University.
Cody Brousek, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Big Ten Conference.
Pam Bruzina, Faculty Athletics Representative Association.

Rhiannon Davies, Student-Athlete Advocacy Committee.
Darren Gauson, University of New Mexico; Mountain West Conference.
Sean Graham, American University.
Karina Handeland, University of Portland.
Shirelle Jackson, University of Miami, Florida; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Mark Kostek, NCAA Track and Field and Cross Country Secretary-Rules Editor.
Gary Martin, Student-athlete from University of Virginia.
Jahi McDonald, Student-Athlete Advocacy Committee.
Connie Price-Smith, University of Mississippi; Southeastern Conference.
Sam Seemes, United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.
Dave Smith, Oklahoma State University; Big 12 Conference.
Molly Sullivan, Butler University; Big East Conference.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Chris Brock, Princeton University; Ivy League.
Milan Donley, NCAA Track and Field National Officials Assignor.
Terren Peterson, Student-athlete from University of South Florida.
Taylor Sanderson, University of Memphis.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Charles Ryan, San Jose State University.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Jejuan Bowser, Emily Capehart and Jeff Mlynski.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>
Jay Fitzwater.