



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS COUNTRY
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
August 5, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2028 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field West First Rounds.** The committee was informed that the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville has had to withdraw from hosting the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field West First Rounds in May of 2028 due to significant large-scale events on campus and within the Fayetteville community during the same time as the west first rounds. The committee will begin the process of reexamining other bids submitted during the original bid process as they explore a relocation site for the 2028 event.
2. **Committee nominations.** The committee reviewed nominations and selected nominees to fill vacancies for positions on the Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Oversight Committee, with one position beginning immediately and all additional positions starting September 1, 2026.
3. **Review of feedback on immediate elimination of altitude and indexing/track size conversions for Division I indoor and outdoor track and field championship qualification.** The committee reviewed membership feedback regarding its decision to eliminate altitude and track size/indexing conversions for NCAA championship qualification beginning with the 2026-27 academic year. Following discussion, the committee voted to uphold its decision, citing the rationale outlined in its June 2026 annual meeting report ([June2026D1XTF Report.pdf](#)). The committee emphasized that this change applies only to NCAA championship qualification. Conferences, institutions and meet hosts may still use altitude and/or track size conversions for seeding purposes or meet entry procedures if they choose. In its discussion, the committee noted that all venues and competitive environments can influence athletic performance. Factors such as altitude, temperature, humidity, and other weather conditions, as well as venue characteristics including flat versus banked tracks, throwing ring surfaces, and runway designs, may affect results. As a result, institutions routinely make strategic decisions about where to compete in order to provide student-athletes with the best opportunities for success based on their event disciplines. The committee further observed that most institutions currently travel to meets and facilities they believe offer the most favorable competitive environments, whether because of the level of competition, environmental conditions, or venue characteristics. It was also noted that, even under the conversion system, many coaches felt compelled to travel certain event groups to specific venues to achieve favorable qualifying performances, such as sprinters from high-altitude institutions competing at sea-level

facilities or jumpers from sea-level institutions to high altitude facilities. Ultimately, eliminating conversions allows championship qualification to be based on raw performances rather than adjusted marks. This approach removes uncertainty regarding the accuracy of conversion formulas and avoids the assumption that all athletes are affected equally by factors such as altitude or track type.

Committee Chair: Karina Handeland, University of Portland; West Coast Conference.

Staff Liaisons: Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances and Jejuan Bowser and Emily Capehart, Governance and Member Services.

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Oversight Committee August 5, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Lindsey Anderson, Weber State University; Big Sky Conference.	
Ritchie Beene, Alabama State University.	
Chris Brock, Princeton University; Ivy League.	
Cody Brousek, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Big Ten Conference.	
Pam Bruzina, Faculty Athletics Representative Association.	
Rhiannon Davies, Student-Athlete Advocacy Committee.	
Milan Donley, NCAA Track and Field National Officials Assignor.	
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.	
Terren Peterson, Student-athlete from University of South Florida.	
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.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Jejuan Bowser, Emily Capehart, and Jeff Mlynski.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:	
Jay Fitzwater, Micaela Kapsalis, and Demetria Young.	