

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS COUNTRY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 20, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. 2025-26 oversight committee and subcommittees meeting cadence. The oversight committee reviewed and approved an updated schedule for full oversight and subcommittee meetings designed to support administering the 2025-26 NCAA championships, and the oversight committee's legislative and rulemaking responsibilities, supported by its playing rules subcommittee.
- 2. Notification-of-transfer windows. The oversight committee continued to discuss the notification-of-transfer windows for track and field and cross country. The committee noted cross country and track and field student-athletes currently have between 90 and 120 days to enter the NCAA Transfer Portal over the course of the academic year depending on whether the individual is on a cross country roster or just track and field. This total number of days for Transfer Portal entry far exceeds that of any other Division I sport and creates unintended consequences for the sport. Specifically, the committee discussed challenges with the current 45-day window that coincides with the indoor track and field season, noting its overlap with most of the outdoor track and field championship season. During its discussion, the committee also reviewed data on the recent patterns of track and field and cross country student-athletes who used the Transfer Portal during 2024-25 and noted most student-athletes used the transfer window that coincides with the outdoor track and field championship. The committee will discuss further whether to recommend any immediate changes to the transfer windows available to Division I cross country and track and field student-athletes during its December 3 meeting.
- **3. 2025 cross country regionals.** The oversight committee discussed feedback from committee members who served as site representatives or attended the regional championship events.
- 4. 2026 NCAA Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Championships administration.
 - a. Key officials and competition managers recommendations. The oversight committee reviewed the recommended individuals to serve as key officials and competition managers for the 2026 Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Championships, respectively, as prepared by National Officials Assignor Milan Donley. Feedback was provided to Mr. Donley regarding the recommended key officials for his final consideration, while competition managers were approved for each of the four Division I track and field championship sites for the indoor and outdoor championship events. In discussing the recommended officials for the 2026 track and field championships, the committee expressed the need to build

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additional pathways to becoming a certified official who is qualified to officiate NCAA track and field competitions, generally agreeing that the current barriers for entry are too significant. The committee will continue exploring opportunities to grow the ranks of collegiate-level track and field officials during future meetings.

- **b.** Announcer recommendations. The oversight committee reviewed and approved the individuals recommended to serve as in-venue announcers during the 2026 Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Championships, respectively.
- **c. 2026 Indoor Track and Field Technical Manual.** The committee reviewed and made select adjustments to the technical manual for the 2026 Indoor Track and Field Championships.
- **d. 2026 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships first rounds competition schedules.** The committee reviewed draft schedules for the first-round championship sites at the University of Kentucky and the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. The committee approved the schedules as presented, pending confirmation from each host site that the schedules are not impacted by any venue or facility constraints.
- e. 2026 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships Eugene competition schedule. The committee began reviewing the draft 2026 outdoor track and field championships competition schedule for Eugene, OR. The committee will finalize the competition schedule during upcoming meetings.
- 5. Updates from Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Subcommittee.
 - a. Additional trademarks and corporate logos referrals. The oversight committee received an update on the rules subcommittee's work to date on the referrals stemming from Division I Proposal 2025-35, which would permit additional trademarks and corporate logos on a student-athlete's uniform, apparel and equipment during non-NCAA championship competition. Specifically, the rules subcommittee was asked to consider developing rules around the following: (1) the placement of commercial or nonprofit logos on student-athletes' uniforms, apparel and equipment; (2) the use of commercial or nonprofit logos on playing surfaces during non-NCAA championship competition; and (3) the use of one commercial or nonprofit logo on officials' uniforms during non-NCAA championship competition. The committee discussed the rules subcommittee's work to date and noted final recommendations following the Division I Cabinet's consideration of the proposed legislative changes in January, would come back to the full committee for final review and approval.

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- **b. 16- and 24-place scoring systems.** The oversight committee received an update on alternative methods for awarding points at the track and field championships to competitors who place outside the top eight. The committee continued to support developing scoring methods that better reflect overall team contributions, noting the institutional benefits of distinguishing programs that fall outside of the top 10 at NCAA Championships. The committee will continue to review new scoring methods at future meetings.
- c. Cross country shoe rules. The committee supported extending through the 2026 season the waiver of the shoe rule that was implemented in October 2025 by the NCAA Division I Track and Field and Cross Country Playing Rules Subcommittee. The committee also recommended that this rule be removed from the next iteration of the NCAA Track and Field and Cross Country Rules book. Both of these recommendations will be forwarded to the playing rules subcommittee.
- 6. United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee request. The oversight committee further discussed the request from the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee to consider adding a second collegiate wheelchair championship event to the current 100m collegiate wheelchair championships that take place at the NCAA outdoor track and field championships. While the committee remains supportive of including the current 100m event, members elected to not add any wheelchair championship events at this time in interest of maintaining the event schedule and minimizing adjustments or conflicts with other NCAA championship events.
- **7. Strategic agenda and future items of focus.** The oversight committee will begin establishing its strategic agenda and future items of committee focus during upcoming meetings.
- **8. Approval of November 5, 2025, report.** The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Oversight Committee approved the November 5 report as written.

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.

Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee November 20, 2025, Meeting

Attendees:

Chris Brock, Princeton University; The Ivy League.

Cody Brousek, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Big Ten Conference.

Milan Donley, NCAA Track and Field National Officials Assignor.

Uri Farkas, Northern Arizona University; Big Sky Conference.

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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.

Funmi Jimoh, Rice University.

Mark Kostek, NCAA Track and Field and Cross Country Secretary-Rules Editor.

Jahi McDonald, Wright State University.

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:

Ritchie Beene; Pam Bruzina; Rhiannon Davies; Gary Martin; and Terren Peterson.

Guests in Attendance:

None.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Jeff Mlynski and Emily Capehart.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Demetria Young.