



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE
SEPT. 3, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **New committee members welcome.** The committee was introduced to its new representatives from the Atlantic and Midwest Regions. Joining the committee are Evie Plude, assistant cross country/track and field coach at Saginaw Valley State University, and Malcolm Watts, head cross country/track and field coach at Claflin University. The committee welcomed both members and looks forward to their contributions and perspectives.
2. **Site visit recap.** The committee received a recap of the recent site visit to Rim Rock Cross Country Course in Lawrence, Kansas, the host site for the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships. The visit brought together representatives from the Kansas City Sports Commission, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA), the University of Kansas, NCAA staff, and championship managers from other Division II Festival sports. The committee noted that Rim Rock is a premier cross country venue that has hosted numerous major cross country events and will provide an outstanding setting for the national championship. Discussions focused on event operations, transportation, and the overall championship experience, while also identifying several key operational positions that still need to be finalized with the host, including the lead athletic trainer, media coordinator, and other championship support roles. The site visit provided a valuable opportunity to review planning efforts and ensure all parties remain on track for a successful championship in December.
3. **Cross country format survey information sheet** The committee continued its review of potential Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships format enhancements and developed an informational document outlining several possible championship format models, including the current format and alternative qualification structures. The information sheet is intended to provide the membership with background on each option, key components, potential advantages, and potential considerations associated with each format.

As part of this process, the committee plans to distribute a membership survey in the coming months to gather feedback from coaches, athletics administrators, and conference commissioners regarding the various championship format options, including a proposed one-site first-round championship model. The feedback received will help inform the committee's ongoing evaluation of potential future championship format changes.

4. **Important championship dates.** The committee also identified key upcoming dates, including scheduling sessions for the mock selection training and site representative training.

Committee Chair: Michael Rosolino, Embry Riddler Aeronautical University
Staff Liaison(s): Lindsey Eldred, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Committee Sept. 3, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Jack Brunecz, King University.	
Carissa Cessna, Missouri Southern State University.	
Pete Gratien, Daemen University.	
Randi Lydum, West Oregon University.	
Evie Plude, Saginaw Valley State University.	
Michael Rosolino, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.	
Katelyn Smith, Adams State University.	
Malcolm Watts, Claflin University.	
NCAA Staff in Attendance:	
Sami Bogenschutz, Championships and Alliances.	
Lindsey Eldred, Championships and Alliances.	