



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JUNE 22-23, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee – Recruiting and Playing and Practice Season – Notification of Transfer Window, Out-of-Season Activities and Preseason Practice Period.

(1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to modify the recruiting and playing and practice season legislation, as follows:

(a) Notification of Transfer Window. Modify the duration of the notification of transfer period from 15 to 10 calendar days, beginning the first business day after January 1.

(b) Out-of-Season Activities.

i. Permit an institution to conduct up to 12 contact and a minimum of nine noncontact practices over seven weeks. 20 hours of countable athletically related activities is permitted in each of those seven weeks. The seven weeks must be divided into two periods, with neither period lasting longer than five weeks. There must be a minimum of one week between the final on-field practice and the start of the preseason practice period. An institution may not conduct contact practices during the month of July.

Require a minimum of nine discretionary weeks. At least one discretionary week must occur between the end of the spring term and the start of the preseason practice period.

ii. Outside of the seven-week period and the discretionary weeks, permit student-athletes to participate in up to eight hours per week of countable athletically related activities, including noncontact skill instruction.

(c) Preseason Practice Period.

- i. Reduce the duration of the preseason practice period from 31 to 27 calendar days;
 - ii. Reduce the total number of preseason practices from 25 to 21;
 - iii. Reduce the number of fully padded and full tackle practices from eight to seven; and
 - iv. Reduce the minimum number of practices in helmets and spider pads from five to four sessions.
- (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.
- (3) Rationale. The recommendation to adjust the written notification of transfer period reflects current trends in football notification of transfer data. That data indicates most student-athletes are entered into the NCAA Transfer Portal within the first ten days of the notification of transfer period. The modification of the opening of the written notification of transfer period to the first business day in January also reduces the administrative burden that occurs when the written notification of transfer period begins on a Saturday or Sunday. The out-of-season activities recommendation provides institutions discretion to plan activities that align with specific institutional practices and philosophies. Finally, a reduction in the duration and number of practices during the preseason practice period is necessary due to the additional on-field practice opportunities provided during the January 1 through start of preseason period. The preseason practice period recommendation allows opportunities for adequate on-field preparation for the upcoming football season while maintaining the current framework for required days off and the seven-day acclimatization period.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Increases in the on-field practice time and the ability to conduct out-of-season practices during the summer may result in additional costs based on institutional decision-making. The reduction in duration and number of on-field practices during the preseason period may reduce preseason expenses for some institutions.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This recommendation aligns the written notification of transfer legislation with current student-athlete behavior and trends, provides institutions with discretion to plan out-of-season activities according to the needs of its student-athletes, and promotes student-athlete health, safety, and well-being by reducing the duration and number of on-field practices during the preseason period.

b. NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee – Playing and Practice Season – Joint Practice between two four-year institutions.

- (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to permit two four-year institutions to conduct a joint practice during a designated out-of-season activities practice period that occurs during the spring term, provided:
 - (a) The joint practice does not occur before the eighth overall practice permitted during out-of-season activities;
 - (b) The joint practice may not occur during the week preceding and during the institution's final examination period;
 - (c) Student-athletes must be eligible to participate in out-of-season activities and may not miss class to travel to or participate in the joint practice session; and
 - (d) An institution is permitted to provide lodging for one overnight stay when traveling to an away from campus location for the joint practice session.
- (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.
- (3) Rationale. This recommendation from the FCS Calendar Subgroup will improve the development and retention of football student-athletes by providing competitive opportunities against another four-year institution's team. The scrimmage may not occur prior to the eighth on-field practice to provide student-athletes with acclimatization prior to contact practices against other student-athletes.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Potential increase to travel and lodging expenses for teams traveling to conduct a joint practice.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This recommendation from the FCS Calendar Subgroup provides student-athletes with increased development opportunities and prohibits student-athletes from missing class.

c. NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee – Playing and Practice Season – Summer School Enrollment Requirements and Exceptions.

- (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to modify summer school enrollment requirements for student-athletes to participate in permissible out-of-season activities, as follows:
 - (a) Returning current and transfer student-athletes who were eligible entering the previous spring academic term and will be eligible for the upcoming fall term may participate in out-of-season activities (i.e., eight-hour weeks) without being enrolled in summer school courses.
 - (b) Returning current and transfer student-athletes who do not meet the eligibility requirements (i.e., spring and fall eligibility) may participate in out-of-season activities during the summer provided they are enrolled in summer school or are enrolled in at least three degree-applicable credit hours in one summer term.
 - (c) The recommendation does not modify the existing legislation for summer school enrollment for student-athletes during their first year of collegiate enrollment.
 - (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.
 - (3) Rationale. This recommendation from the FCS Calendar Subgroup prioritizes student-athletes' progress towards degree by allowing student-athletes who remain eligible throughout the academic year to engage in out-of-season activities during the summer periods without being required to enroll in summer school courses. Further, the adoption of the age-based eligibility model allows student-athletes additional academic years to progress towards degree without summer school enrollment.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. Potential reduction in summer school enrollment expenses.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. Aligning summer school enrollment requirements with academic competition eligibility benchmarks incentivizes student-athletes to progress towards their degrees during the academic year.
- d. **NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee – Recruiting – Designation of Off-Campus Recruiters.**
- (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to modify the off-campus recruiters legislation, as follows:

- (a) Permit an institution to designate up to 17 institutional staff members to recruit off-campus on behalf of the institution between the January 1 through December 31.
 - (b) Permit an institution to designate different institutional staff members as off-campus recruiters each contact period.
 - (c) The institution's head football coach must be designated as one of the 17 institutional staff members permitted to recruit off-campus on behalf of the institution.
 - (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.
 - (3) Rationale. The changes to off-campus recruiting legislation reflect the current college athletics landscape by providing more institutional autonomy to determine recruiting philosophies and practices.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. Potential increase in the number of off-campus recruiters and recruiting activity based on institutional decisions.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. The increase in the number of off-campus recruiters and the ability to redesignate off-campus recruiters based on the contact period allows institutions to designate other staff members to recruit off-campus while coaching staff members to stay on-campus to focus on the development of current student-athletes.
- e. **NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee – Recruiting – Recruiting Person Days.**
- (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle, to modify the football off-campus recruiting model, as follows:
 - (a) Modify existing off-campus recruiting legislation to provide institutions with an annual number of off-campus recruiting person days.
 - (b) Any institutional staff member engaged in an off-campus recruiting activity (except institutional and noninstitutional camps) shall count against the annual number of recruiting person days.
 - (c) Eliminate the off-campus recruiting person days limits in the spring contact period and evaluation days limits in the fall evaluation period.

- (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.
- (3) Rationale. The changes to off-campus recruiting legislation reflect the current college athletics landscape by providing more institutional autonomy to determine recruiting philosophies and practices.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

f. NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee – Recruiting – Prospective Student-Athlete Recruiting Opportunities.

- (1) Action. The NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee introduced legislation into the October legislative cycle to permit an institution to conduct six recruiting opportunities per prospective student-athlete, as follows:
 - a. Up to four recruiting opportunities may be used between January 1 and May 31, with no more than one per week (one head coach visit maximum).
 - b. One recruiting opportunity is permitted during the Fall Contact period , provided there is no contact with the prospective student-athlete on the day of the contest.
 - c. An additional recruiting opportunity during the December Contact period.
- (2) Effective date. January 1, 2027.
- (3) Rationale. This recommendation from the FCS Calendar Subgroup modifies prospective student-athlete recruiting opportunities to align with a recruiting model that uses recruiting person days and permits off-campus recruiting contacts and evaluations that complement changes to the out-of-season athletic activity legislation.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- a. **FCS Championship Committee – Automatic Qualifiers.** The FCSOC approved the list of conferences whose championships will receive automatic qualification to the FCS championship. This list was recommended to the FCSOC by the FCS Championship Committee.
- b. **Football Conference Administrative Guidelines (FCAG).** The FCSOC approved a recommendation from the DI Football Rules Subcommittee to approve Football Conference Administrative Guidelines developed by FBS and FCS conference administrators to identify football playing rules that are administrative in nature. These are rules identified as relating more to game management than to how the game is played and will be managed by the conferences.
- c. **Football Playing Rules – Experimental Rule Request.** The FCSOC approved an experimental rule proposal from the Division I football rules subcommittee to permit replay video output to be made available in real-time to both coaches' booths during conference competition. A non-conference opponent would have the ability to opt out of the replay video output, which would mean that neither team would have access to it. This experimental rule may be used for the 2026 regular season. Any conference using this rule will be required to submit feedback, findings, results and any other applicable information shortly after the conclusion of the season.
- d. **2026-27 FCS Recruiting Calendar.** The FCSOC approved recommendations from the FCS Calendar Subgroup to amend the 2026-27 FCS recruiting calendar to change the fall evaluation period (September 1 through the Sunday following Thanksgiving) to a contact period. The FCSOC noted this change aligns with the introduction of recruiting legislation that would eliminate the limits on evaluation days during the fall and permit one recruiting opportunity (contact or evaluation) during the recruiting period (See [Nonlegislative Item No. 1-\[f\]](#)).
- e. **Future of FCS – Branding Discussion.** The FCSOC continued its discussion regarding the future of FCS football with the NCAA branding/communications staff. The FCSOC supported a plan that includes engagement with internal and external stakeholders that could culminate in a brand unveiling in spring 2027. This timeline would allow the branding/communications department to engage with stakeholders, including events such as the FCS Forum and potentially AFCA.
- f. **FCS Calendar Subgroup – Recruiting Model and Conference Feedback Request.** The FCSOC reviewed the June survey data on the potential modifications to the out-of-season activities, modified preseason practice period, recruiting and off-campus recruiters and notification of transfer period. The committee introduced legislation based on membership feedback provided in the survey.

The committee reviewed a recommendation from the FCS Calendar Subgroup and membership feedback on establishing a recruiting model limited only by an annual number of off-campus recruiting person days. The FCSOC will move forward with a recommendation to change the off-campus recruiting model; however, the committee plans to modify their initial recommendation to include an annual number of off-campus recruiting person days (i.e., 330, 350 or 400). Committee members will discuss conference feedback and act to modify the initial recommendation to add a limit on the number of annual recruiting person days during the July 27 videoconference.

The committee also reviewed recommendations from the FCS Calendar Subgroup that would not modify existing legislation surrounding official visits and signing periods. The committee affirmed its support for the FCS Calendar Subgroup recommendations and does not anticipate proposing any legislative changes to official visits and signing periods.

- g. NCAA Secretary Rules-Editor and National Coordinator of Officials update.** The FCSOC received an update regarding the search for both positions. The job posting has closed, and it is anticipated that both positions will be filled by July.
- h. FCS Championship update.** The FCSOC received a recap of the 2026 Championship in Nashville and outlined initiatives for the upcoming 2027 Championship.
- i. NCAA Division I Cabinet update.** The FCSOC received an update regarding the NCAA Division I Cabinet's discussions on the age-based eligibility model that included an update on discussions by the NCAA Board of Directors about eligibility scenarios involving current and future student-athletes. Further, FCSOC received an update on the NCAA Board of Directors' concept regarding an engagement period that would permit an institution to initiate recruiting conversations with a student-athlete prior to the opening of the sport-specific notification of transfer period.
- j. Office of Legal Affairs update.** The FCSOC received an update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
- k. Legislative Relief Waiver Volume Summary.** The FCSOC received a summary of the volume of legislative relief waivers submitted by institutions to enter football student-athletes into the transfer portal outside of the January 2-16 notification of transfer period.
- l. Congressional update.** The FCSOC received an update from the NCAA External Affairs department regarding recent congressional engagement.

- m. **FBS Working Group update.** The FCSOC receive an update of the work of the FBS Working Group. The group is expected to complete its work this summer and provide a report summarizing its recommendations to the Division I Board of Directors in August.
- n. **NCAA Division I Football Student-Athlete Engagement Group (FSAEG) update.** The FCSOC received an update from the FSAEG.
- o. **American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) update.** The FCSOC received an update from the AFCA.
- p. **Approval of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee report.** The FCSOC approved the May 11 videoconference FCSOC meeting report.
- q. **Future meetings.**
 - (1) 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, July 27, 2026; videoconference.
 - (2) 1 to 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, August 31, 2026; videoconference.

Committee Chair: Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University.

Staff Liaisons: Geoff Bentzel, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.
Jenn Fraser, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.
Ty Halpin, NCAA Championships and Alliances.
Kris Richardson, NCAA Division I Governance and Membership Services.

NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee June 22-23, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Carolyn Campbell-McGovern; The Ivy League. (alternate)	
Jim Curry, East Texas A&M University, Southland Conference.	
Sherryta Freeman, Lafayette College; Patriot League.	
Jean Gee, University of Montana; Big Sky Conference.	
Dena Freeman-Patton, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. (Day 1)	
Anton Goff, Prairie View A&M; Southwest Athletic Conference.	
Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University; Coastal Athletic Association.	
Melvin Hines, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. (alternate, Day 2)	
Kit Hughes, College of Holy Cross; DI Football Championship Committee Chair.	
Curt Mallory, Indiana State University; Missouri Valley Football Conference.	
Kurt McGuffin, University of Tennessee Martin; Ohio Valley Conference.	
Kyle Moats, Eastern Kentucky University; Atlantic Sun Conference.	
Bob Nielson, American Football Coaches Association.	
Colby Ramshaw, University of New Hampshire, Coastal Athletic Association. (alternate)	
Jeff Roberts, Tennessee Technological University.	
Amy Strickland, Central Connecticut State University; Northeast Conference.	
Greg Walter, Pioneer Football League	
Jamaal Walton, Virginia Military Institute; Southern Conference.	
Absentees:	
Mike Harrity, Dartmouth College; The Ivy League.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Geoff Bentzel, Ty Halpin, and Kris Richardson	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Leilani Hubbard, Brittney Jackson, Chris Johnson, Greg Johnson, Travis Johnston, Gina Lehe, Jackson Marcotte, Ashley Murray, and Geoff Silver.	