



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEES
JUNE 17-18, 2025, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Allowances for student-athletes to participate in competition as individuals.**

(1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee request a blanket waiver, in men's golf, to permit up to four student-athletes to participate in a date of competition without it counting as an institutional date of competition provided no student-athletes contribute to a team score on the particular date of competition. The recommendation is for the 2025-26 academic year only at this time and will be revisited by the committees in advance of future academic years.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. In 2023, the men's and women's golf committees supported a recommendation to adjust the requirement for minimum sport sponsorship from five participating student-athletes to four participating student-athletes in a contest. This recommendation was made at the request of the women's golf committee to protect women's golf programs from falling below minimum sport sponsorship requirements, as had been the case with four women's programs in recent years.

The formal approval of this recommendation also resulted in a change to the allowances in the number of student-athletes who are able to compete as individuals while representing their institution, without using a team date of competition.

The women's golf committee remains supportive of the adjusted requirement for minimum sport sponsorship from five participating student-athletes to four participating student-athletes in a contest.

However, the men's golf committee is strongly opposed to this amended sport sponsorship requirement causing an unintended consequence of limiting participation opportunities for men's golf student-athletes, as it is positioned to do beginning in the 2025-26 academic year.

This issue exists primarily because of the difference in average roster size between women's golf, which averaged between 8.2 and 8.5 student-athletes per team from

2016-2023, and men's golf, which averaged between 9.8 and 10.1 student-athletes per team during the same period.

With larger roster sizes in men's golf, the difference between allowing three or four student-athletes to participate without using a date of competition is significant, as there is a greater need to have four student-athletes participating in a given event at any time in order to maximize participation opportunities for student-athletes. In women's golf, where the average roster size is fewer than nine student-athletes, the need for four student-athletes to compete as individuals in a given event simply isn't the same based on overall roster size.

During the 2023-24 academic year, there were more than 15 men's individual-only events conducted, plus dozens of additional team/individual competitions in which four men's golf student-athletes participated as individuals while representing their institution without using a team date of competition. It is believed that only one individual-only event was conducted in women's golf in 2023-24. Similar numbers of individual-only events were conducted during the 2024-25 academic year.

If the amended sport sponsorship requirement remains in place, participation opportunities will be reduced for scores of men's golf student-athletes at several dozen institutions. As such, the men's golf committee is seeking relief from the legislation set to go into effect this fall.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. As this recommendation would provide relief and realign men's golf legislation with practices implemented in prior years, there is no budget impact.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This recommendation will allow relief from legislation that would reduce participation opportunities for men's golf student-athletes throughout the membership and, as such, would have a positive impact on student-athletes.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Rankings.** The committees met with Dr. Mark Broadie to discuss the current national collegiate golf rankings.

The committees reviewed a season recap from Dr. Broadie, including several comparisons between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years, following some changes that were implemented between seasons based on feedback from the Golf Coaches Association of America and Women's Golf Coaches Association.

The committees reviewed and discussed the merits of potential additional adjustments to the ranking algorithm, including additional guardrails for outlier events and the impact of the national championships on the final rankings. The women's committee voted to implement an

additional guardrail to account for runaway victories, while the men's committee voted not to implement this additional guardrail. The committees did not vote in support of a guardrail to decrease the impact of a team's worst event on its ranking.

2. **Survey to head golf coaches.** The committees were informed that a survey was distributed to all Division I men's and women's head golf coaches this week requesting feedback on the .500 rule and non-predetermined regional sites. Staff will share survey feedback with the committees in the coming weeks and the next appropriate steps will be determined at that time.
3. **.500 rule.** The committees briefly discussed the .500 rule jointly, both for the full season and for conference championships, and will await feedback from the survey to head golf coaches before discussing further.
4. **Future championships.**
 - a. **Omni La Costa debrief and 2026-28 championships planning.** The committees discussed the 2025 championship finals, which were conducted at Omni La Costa in Carlsbad, California, for the second of five consecutive years. The committees reviewed feedback from the championships and discussed several possible student-athlete and spectator enhancements, including placement and size of videoboards, placement of portable restrooms, and spectator seating areas on the course and near the practice facilities. Committee members also expressed a desire for continued efforts to secure additional hotel rooms for needs over and above those held for official travel party members. Lastly, committee members and staff discussed ideas for enhancing the relationship between participating coaches and student-athletes and garnering more community support for the championships in the process.

The committees received an update from staff regarding a future bid cycle, which will likely commence within the next calendar year.

- b. **Future bid cycles.** The committees received an update from staff regarding a future bid cycle, which will likely commence within the next calendar year.
5. **Finals site course access policy.** Committee members briefly discussed and made no changes to the finals site course access policy. The publicly posted policy states that course access should be restricted for coaches and student-athletes at NCAA member institutions, including the host institution, except for those instances where a preexisting club membership was in place at the host venue.
6. **Call for Rules Modifications.** The committees received an update from staff regarding the recent call for rules modifications the NCAA playing rules and officiating staff sent to the membership.

7. **Scoreboard by Clippd updates.** The committees met with Marcus El and Carolyn Kupchik from Scoreboard by Clippd, who updated the committees on the first year of live scoring through ScoreboardLive, which included approximately 1,100 events. Committee members discussed with Mr. El and Ms. Kupchik the possibility of locking the system at the time of the schedule submission deadline to ensure adherence to the policy. Committee members also discussed priority items for the Scoreboard team in advance of the 2025-26 academic year, along with potential revisions and improvements to the subscription packages available to teams. Mr. El stressed the importance of receiving open and honest feedback from the membership in order for continued improvements to be made.
8. **Golf Channel.** The committees met with Giancarlo DiMascio from Golf Channel, who provided an overview from the 2025 championships, including viewership numbers for both the women's and men's championship broadcasts and comparisons to prior years. Mr. DiMascio also shared with committee members and staff a tentative broadcast schedule for 2025-26 NCAA regular season men's and women's events.
9. **Future governance structure.** The committees met with Liz Suscha, NCAA vice president of championships and alliances, governance and policy, and received an update on forthcoming changes to the sport committee structure. Mrs. Suscha noted that a primary goal within the new structure will be to allow more decision-making oversight to live within each sport, though some items will still require additional approval. Mrs. Suscha noted that changes to the structure would likely come in or around August 2025.
10. **Process for players with disabilities to use golf carts.** The committees received an update from staff regarding continued efforts to streamline the process for players with disabilities to use golf carts and make this process more publicly available and consistent in application.
11. **Summer 2026 annual committee meeting dates.** Committee members and staff did not confirm meeting dates for Summer 2026 but noted their preference for avoiding the week of June 15, if possible.

Committee Chairs: John Hauscarriague, University of California, Irvine (men's committee)
Jon Kasper, Big Sky Conference (women's committee)
Staff Liaisons: John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances
Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Golf Committees June 17-18, 2025, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Jennifer Aguilar, University of North Carolina, Greensboro.	

Kalen Anderson, University of South Carolina, Columbia.
Deedee Brown-Campbell, Texas Tech University.
Andrew Danna, Florida Gulf Coast University.
Mary Giardina, Florida Atlantic University.
John Hauscarriague, University of California, Irvine.
Quincy Heard, Alabama State University.
Kenneth Jones, University of Tennessee Chattanooga.
Jon Kasper, Big Sky Conference.
John Kennaday, San Jose State University.
Scott MacDonald, San Jose State University.
Emily Marron, University of Central Florida.
Halley Morrell, Bradley University.
Jay Moseley, The Ohio State University.
Ellie Shannon, Wake Forest University.
Joy Vrbka, Auburn University.
Kari Williams, State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Mark Broadie, College Golf Rankings.
Giancarlo DiMascio, Golf Channel.
Marcus El, Scoreboard by Clippd.
Carolyn Kupchik, Scoreboard by Clippd.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.
Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances.
Jackie Kawamoto, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Tommy Barrett, Championships and Alliances.
Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances.