



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEES
MARCH 5, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

Nonlegislative items.

- Championships Date Formula Change

a. Recommendation. Adjust the championship date formulas as follows:

For women's golf:

- Automatic qualification deadline: Seven days before the practice day of regional competition;
- Selection day: Six days before the practice day of regional competition;
- Regionals: - Two weeks prior to the finals (Monday-Wednesday); and
- Finals - Second full week of May (Sunday-Saturday), with competition conducted Monday-Friday.

For men's golf:

- Automatic qualification deadline: 12 days before the practice day of regional competition (no change);
- Selection day is 10 days before the practice day of regional competition (no change);
- Regionals: Two weeks prior to finals (Monday-Wednesday); and
- Finals: Third full week of May (Sunday-Saturday), with competition conducted Monday-Friday.

b. Effective date. Sept. 1, 2028, for the 2029 championships.

c. Rationale. The men's and women's golf committees reviewed membership feedback regarding the championship date formula and considered both the current structure and the proposed adjustments. Survey data indicated that 56% of overall respondents and 73% of head coaches do not support the current date formula, while more than 80% of respondents expressed support for the proposed date formula concept. Respondents cited several concerns with the current structure, particularly for programs with coaches who oversee both men's and women's teams. The existing schedule limits the ability for coaching staffs to be present at both championships, which may diminish support for one or both programs, especially in certain regions.

Additionally, the current format presents challenges related to course availability, particularly for men's regionals conducted Thursday through Saturday, as many facilities have greater availability earlier in the week (Monday through Wednesday). Concerns were also raised regarding student-athlete experience. Under the current format, some teams face extended travel schedules that may result in missed practice rounds or limited preparation time. Respondents noted that this structure places student-athletes at a competitive disadvantage and is not aligned with the standards typically expected for championship competition.

The proposed date formula aims to address these concerns by aligning both men's and women's regionals to a Monday-Wednesday format, scheduled two weeks prior to their respective championships. The women's finals would remain in the second full week of May but shift to a Monday-Friday competition window, while the men's finals would continue in the third full week of May. This structure provides greater consistency, improves course availability, and allows for more manageable travel and preparation timelines. Respondents identified several benefits to the proposed model, including increased flexibility for coaches to attend both championships, improved coordination of travel, and better alignment with academic calendars. Notably, the revised schedule may allow student-athletes to participate in important campus events, such as graduation ceremonies.

Under the proposed 2029 calendar, women's regionals would be conducted April 30-May 2, followed by men's regionals May 7-9. The women's championships would take place May 14-18, with the men's championships scheduled for May 21-25. This option provides a three- to four-day buffer between regional rounds and their respective championships, as well as a brief transition period between the women's and men's finals. Additionally, the championships would conclude prior to Memorial Day weekend.

The committee acknowledges potential challenges associated with the proposed format, including the need for some conferences to adjust championship dates and the possibility of compressing portions of the regular season for one gender. However, based on the data and feedback provided, the committee supports the proposed date formula as a means to enhance the overall championship experience for student-athletes and coaches.

- d. Estimated budget impact. The proposed championship date formula should positively impact future budgets. Course fees are generally less expensive for weekday play opposed to weekend play. There is not an expectation that this proposed date formula would incur extra costs than the current formula.

- e. Student-athlete impact. The proposed championship date formula is expected to improve the student-athlete experience by reducing travel strain on coaches, allowing adequate time for practice rounds and preparation. Additionally, the revised format allows coaches who oversee both men's and women's golf programs to attend each team's regional competition from the practice round to completion, supporting a more consistent and equitable experience for student-athletes across both programs.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **Medal Match Play discussion.** The committees discussed the feedback they received from the membership survey based on Medal Match Play vs. match play at the national championship. The committee supports continuing the medal match play format at the championships, as it ensures every hole directly contributes to the overall team result. This format emphasizes strategy, accountability and sustained performance, requiring student-athletes to compete through all 18 holes without conceding opportunities. By combining elements of stroke play and match play, it more effectively identifies the most complete team performance while maintaining a high level of competitiveness and student-athlete experience.

Committee Chair: Jeremy Benoit, Goldey-Beacom College

Dominic Guarnieri, University of Findlay

Staff Liaison(s): Antonio Cannavaro, Championships and Alliances

Mariah Martin, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees March 5, 2026, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Jeremy Benoit, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Ben Greenberg, Colorado State University, Pueblo.	
Dom Guarnieri, University of Findlay.	
David Lynn, Oklahoma Christian University.	
Joseph Marino, Nova Southeastern University.	
Alex Schmitz, Minnesota State University, Mankato.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Antonio Cannavaro.	
Mariah Martin.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
None.	

