



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE
JULY 21-22, 2025, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. 2027 and 2028 regional site recommendations.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following regional sites for the 2027 and 2028 Division II Women's Golf Championships.

Year	Region	Host/Venue
2027	Central	University of Nebraska at Kearney/Meadowlark Hill Golf Course
2027	East	University of Findlay/Nemacolin
2027	South	University of North Georgia/Chattahoochee Golf Club
2027	West	California State University, San Marcos/Victoria Club
2028	East	Grand Valley State University/The Meadows Course
2028	South	Saint Leo University/Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. The Division II Women's Golf Committee has been accepting regional bids for 2027 and 2028 since March 2025. The committee was able to provide recommendations for the 2027 Central, East, South and West Regionals, as well as the 2028 East and South Regionals. The committee is confident in the quality of the proposed sites, citing a strong history of hosting Division II Women's Golf Championships and the prestige of the courses offering student-athletes a championship-caliber experience on course they may not have previously played. The 2027 East Regional bid at Nemacolin in Farmington, Pennsylvania, features average greens fees of \$300 to \$350 per round. However, the venue is offering a reduced rate at \$75 per round for the championship, making it a highly attractive option. Similarly, the Victoria Club in Riverside, California – the proposed host of the 2027 West Regional – previously hosted the 2025 Division II Men's Golf West/South Central Regional. Teams praised the overall student-athlete experience at the venue. To ensure a full and competitive slate of host sites, the committee extended the bid deadline for the 2028 Central and West Regionals. This additional time allows for further review and evaluation to ensure a well-rounded experience across all regions.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. The projected budget expenditures are as follows:

Regional	Projected Budget Expenditures
2027 Central	\$41,250
2027 East	\$57,125
2027 South	\$38,584
2027 West	\$57,700
2028 East	\$41,800
2028 South	\$40,310

(For reference, budget expenditures for regionals have usually been between \$38,000 and \$60,000 depending on the regional locations.)

- (5) Student-athlete impact. The venues and host institutions selected will provide quality student-athlete experiences during the championships.
- b. Substitutions at conference championships.
- (1) Recommendation. Approve a policy to clarify that conference championships are required to use the same substitution policy in place for both NCAA regionals and finals. [Attachment]
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Aligning conference championships with the substitution procedures used at regionals and finals creates consistency across all levels of postseason competition. The change reduces confusion for coaches and student-athletes by standardizing the process and ensures competitive equity by applying the same roster and scoring rules in all postseason formats. This approach also uses substitutions in its true definition, allowing the sixth player or substitute to participate in the practice round and use practice facilities, but not otherwise as a competing student-athlete until they are subbed in.
- (4) Estimated budget impacts. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The proposal provides clarity and fairness for student-athletes competing in postseason play to qualify for regionals and the finals. It eliminates potential competitive disadvantages for teams with more than six players on the roster and supports a consistent competitive environment and expectations across postseason play.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Annual meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the 2025 annual meeting schedule.
2. **Approval of 2024 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2024 committee meeting report as presented.
3. **Committee roster.** The committee reviewed the 2025-26 roster, noting the addition of Alex Schmitz from Minnesota State University, Mankato.
4. **Division II women's golf strategic plan.** The committee reviewed the Division II women's golf strategic plan and agreed to add a short-term goal and strategy focused on increasing institutional participation and education for hosting the Division II Women's Golf Championships.
5. **2025-26 automatic qualification.** The committee reviewed the current sponsorship list and noted adjustments in sponsorship and conference membership.
6. **Review of 2025 championships.** The committee reviewed the 2025 championships and noted the following:
 - a. **Regionals.** The committee reviewed survey responses and noted overall participant satisfaction with the regional championship experience. Members discussed the impact of weather delays and expressed overall satisfaction with how they were managed. The committee noted updating the tiebreaking procedures to avoid delays in awards presentations due to playoffs. The committee also discussed adjustments to the order of tee times to accommodate weather conditions. Members also discussed improving signage and reiterated that yardages in manuals may change due to weather, safety or course conditions.
 - b. **Championships.** The committee noted that the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority and University of Nevada, Las Vegas, did a great job hosting. The committee discussed recommending an additional individual qualifier from regionals to nationals. Currently, eight individuals qualify, and adding one would allow for three groups of threesomes and mitigate pace of play concerns. Members noted that hole cups were not painted white and emphasized standardizing this at future national championships. Other discussions included assigning coach carts with labeled stickers and encouraging closer team hotel proximity to future championships sites. The committee also recommended increasing spectator guidelines signage around the course in case a spectator is not following the rules.
 - c. **Championships survey results.** The committee noted lower marks regarding regional travel. For this upcoming Division II triennial budget cycle, the committee will recommend matching the regional travel party size with the national championships. Currently, the regional travel party size is seven and nationals are eight.
 - d. **Championship format.** The committee discussed the opinions from coaches and administrators on medal play (i.e., medal match play vs. match play). Committee members

expressed satisfaction with the current format, including medal play. The committee plans to solicit membership feedback via the upcoming Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships date and format survey this fall before considering changes to medal play.

- e. **Administrative meeting.** The committee supports holding administrative meetings before regional practice rounds and favored a two-part format (virtual and in-person) before finals.
 - f. **Practice round.** The committee updated the policy to a maximum of 5.5 hours, and no additional time will be provided at regionals and finals. Once a group has moved and completed second shots, teams need to proceed without delay. The policy no longer includes maximum time per hole.
 - g. **One tee start/split tee start.** For regionals, the committee noted that the order of tee times is at the discretion of the host institution based on the course layout, with the option for a split-tee start on Day 3 to accommodate awards presentations and mitigate weather-related delays. The championship format remains the same, subject to onsite adjustments.
 - h. **Rules officials.** The committee noted a positive experience in working with the head rules officials and the officials crew.
7. **Upcoming championships dates.** The committee reviewed upcoming championship dates, locations and hosts.
8. **2026 championships preview.**
- a. **Important dates.** The committee reviewed the timeline for the 2025-26 season.
 - b. **Selections.** The selection call will take place on April 26, 2026.
 - c. **Regional sites.** The committee noted that the 2026 regionals will be at the following sites:

2026 Regional	Host/Venue
Central	St. Joseph, Missouri Sports Commission and Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph Country Club
East	University of Findlay, Findlay Country Club
South	Lee University, Cleveland Country Club
West	Colorado State University, Pueblo, Pueblo Country Club

- d. **Finals site.** The committee noted that the finals site berths for 2025-26 will be: Central - 5 teams; South 4 - teams; East - 4 teams; and West - 5 teams. The baseline berths for the championship are four across regions due to the increase in field size, with the two regionals represented in the previous year's medal play receiving the additional berths for the next year.

- e. **Site visits.** Site visits for the head rules official are to be determined later. The NCAA liaison

has contacted the 2026 host to schedule a site visit with the chair. The chair provided her availability for the site visit.

9. **2027 championship dates.** The committee confirmed the regional and national championships dates for 2027.
10. **Head rules official review.** The committee commended Head Rules Official Brad Wiesley's contributions and supported his recommendations to assist with the logistics of the championships.
11. **Current minimum and maximum dates of competition.** The committee discussed the proposal to be formally reviewed at the 2026 NCAA Convention. An official position will be taken in September.
12. **Misconduct.** The committee discussed incidents of misconduct during the championships.
13. **Finals bid specs.** The committee reviewed and updated the bid specifications for the 2028-2031 championship cycles.
14. **Policy review.**
 - a. **Tournament schedule submission deadline.** The committee noted the beginning of the fall season as the registration deadline and February 1 as the tournament submission deadline. The committee noted the importance of making sure schedules are submitted to Clippd prior to February 1 to avoid penalties.
 - b. **Golf carts.** The committee was pleased with the pre-registration process. The committee reiterated golf cart reservations and requests should go directly to the host or course staff. Due to the limited number of carts across each finals site the committee agreed that one cart will be assigned to the designated coach(es) during the practice and competition rounds. The cart is to be used by the designated coach(es) only and should not be used to transport spectators, team personnel, athletics administrators, student-athletes, golf clubs or golf bags. The committee agreed student-athletes may use carts for the entire practice round at both regionals and the finals, understanding the amount of walking required on competition days. The committee noted cart availability will depend on each course's inventory, and equal carts will be distributed across teams based on that inventory.
 - c. **Student-athletes as advice givers.** The committee notes this policy should remain in place. Student-athletes may not serve as advice-givers.
 - d. **Substitutions at conference championships.** The committee agreed to maintain the current substitution policy, while noting the need for further clarification. Specifically, members discussed how conference tournaments that use a substitute as an individual in Round 1 and then sub them in the team on Round 2 should understand how the scores reflect in the rankings. The committee recommended that conferences be required to use the same substitution policy used at NCAA regionals and finals (see Nonlegislative Action

Item 2-b).

- e. **Substitutions at regionals and finals.** The committee agreed at regionals and the national championships, substitutes may practice with the team, use the facility and act as a spectator during play. Substitutions may occur up to 10 minutes before rounds and a tiebreaker playoff. No substitutions are permitted after quarterfinal pairings of the national championships, except in the event of extenuating circumstances as evaluated and approved by the onsite medical staff. Substitutions may still occur between the quarterfinals and semifinals with 10 minutes' notice.
- f. **Timing of playoffs.** The committee noted this policy should stay the same. In the event of a playoff, both teams must be ready when called upon to play.
- g. **Course access policy (10 days).** The committee agreed to retain the current course access policy with updated text to help clarify. One 18-hole practice round will be scheduled for the day immediately preceding the championships finals. Beginning 10 days prior to that round, participants and coaches are prohibited from practicing or walking on the competition course. Use of practice facilities – including the driving range, putting greens and chipping areas – is permitted during this period, subject to availability. The policy applies to all venues, including those with shared practice facilities or clubhouses. No exceptions will be granted. The host institution of the regional or championship is exempt from this policy. If a different member institution shares the same competition course with the host institution and the policy imposes an undue burden, that institution may apply for an exemption.
- h. **Stroke play and medal play (aka medal match play) pace of play.** The committee noted this policy should stay the same.
- i. **Order of tee times.** The committee noted that the order of tee times is at the discretion of the host institution based on the course layout. The committee recommends a two-tee start on Day 3 to avoid any time constraints that could impact the awards presentation. The order of tee times will remain the same at the finals site.
- j. **Electronic scoring at regionals and finals.** The committee agreed that live scoring from Clipd will be used at regionals, along with a scoreboard verification. The committee agreed that allowing student-athletes to use their phones as the official scorecard is standard, as it is done throughout the season. At both regionals and national championships, student-athletes will update their scores electronically as the official scorecard, with the physical scorecard serving as the backup. Scorecard verification will still occur at the end of each round. The committee noted hosts should provide electronic scoring rover volunteers who can assist with inputting live scores in the event of any onsite issues.
- k. **Tiebreaking procedures.** The committee clarified the tiebreaking procedures to ensure timely resolution of ties and minimize impacts on other championship elements, such as awards presentations. In a team sudden-victory playoff, all five scores (relative to par) will

now be counted instead of four. The committee updated that sudden victory playoff holes will be used as the first criterion to break ties in finals medal play, rather than moving directly to cumulative team scores, to preserve competitive integrity, ensure the outcome is decided on the course, and provide a clear conclusion for participants. The cumulative total of all five players' scores will serve as the second criterion if time or other conditions requiring transitioning to the semifinals. If conditions or time do not allow for a team playoff, ties will be broken by the cumulative total of the lowest individual scores, comparing first the three lowest scores, then the two lowest scores, then the best individual score. If a tie remains, the committee will determine the winner. Individual ties will be broken using the USGA-recommended method, comparing scores on holes 10-18, 13-18, 16-18, hole 18, then No. 1 handicap hole, No. 2 handicap hole, and so on until the tie is resolved. For multiple rounds, individual comparisons will start with the most recent round and proceed backward if necessary, following the same hole sequence.

1. **Replacement policy for selections (individual and team withdrawal).** Committee members decided that if a replacement is needed, they would replace the current team with the next team in the selections process. The committee added that a team has 48 hours to withdraw so the replacement can be notified and have time to make travel arrangements. Further, the committee noted that if there was an instance that a team needed to withdraw after qualifying for nationals, the next highest ranked team in that region would have the opportunity to compete at nationals.

15. Discussion with Division II Men's Golf Committee. The men's and women's committees discussed a variety of topics to help align operations.

- a. **Championships committee updates.** The committees reviewed the most recent actions taken by the Division II Championships Committee as information.
- b. **Coaches Connection update.** The committees received updates from the Coaches Connection liaison, Fran Reidy.
- c. **Governance updates.** The committees received updates from the Division II governance staff regarding the division's strategic priorities and initiatives. The committee also discussed marketing and social media for Division II golf and a continued desire to have an enhanced social media presence during the championships.
- d. **Professor Mark Broadie.** The committees received an update from Professor Mark Broadie on the college golf rankings to explore potential adjustments to the ranking algorithm ahead of the 2025-26 season. The committees requested additional information from Mr. Broadie to analyze if those changes should be implemented. The committee would like to have Mr. Broadie share his presentation with the membership during a future Coaches Connection call.
- e. **Consistency across genders.**

- i. **Championships date formula survey.** The committees agreed on a proposed date

formula option to include in the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships date and format membership survey this fall. The formula provides an adequate buffer between regionals and the national championships.

- ii. **2025-26 proposed men's and women's golf rules modifications.** The committees discussed five rules modification proposals recently received from the membership and took no action on any of the proposals.
- iii. **Substitution policy.** The committees agreed to maintain the current substitution policy, while noting the need for further clarification. Specifically, they discussed how conference tournaments that use a substitute as an individual in Round 1 and then sub them in the team on Round 2 should understand how the scores reflect in the rankings.
- iv. **Student-athletes as advice-givers.** The committees agreed that student-athletes should not serve as advice-givers.
- v. **Student-athletes electronic scoring at regionals and finals.** The committees agreed that allowing student-athletes to use their phones as the official scorecard is standard, as it is done throughout the season. At both regionals and national championships, student-athletes will update their scores electronically as the official scorecard, with the physical scorecard serving as the backup. Scorecard verification will still occur at the end of each round. The committees also encouraged hosts to provide electronic scoring rover volunteers who can assist with inputting live scores in the event of any onsite issues.
- vi. **Practice facility/course access.** The committees reviewed practice facility/course access policies and noted some slight differences. The committees agreed that the women's committee will update its policy and the men will review to see if the same updates are warranted.
- vii. **Medal play vs. match play.** The committees discussed the current medal play (i.e., medal match play) format of the championships and agreed to maintain the format as is until more information is gathered from the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships date and format survey this fall to assess whether a format change is warranted starting in spring of 2027.
- viii. **Tie breaking procedures.** The committees reviewed their tiebreaking procedures and noted some slight differences. The women's committee will update its procedures in the pre-championships manual, and the men's committee will review whether to make the same updates.
- ix. **Finals banquet.** The committees discussed this year's banquet and noted that teams often prefer to spend time with their teams following the practice round. The committees will consider reorienting the banquet to be held the morning of the practice round as a welcome reception, during which the Elite 90 Award would be

recognized.

- x. **2026 annual meeting.** The committees agreed June 22-23, 2026, will be the dates for the 2026 joint annual meeting.

16. Roles and responsibilities for regional and finals championships administration. The committee was satisfied with the roles and responsibilities at the championship. Committee members also noted that if a scenario emerges in which the two coaches on the committee are competing at the finals site, they will select a RAC member from the coaches' regions to serve on the committee during the championship.

17. Review of the committee timeline. The committee discussed the timeline and made necessary updates for the 2025-26 season.

18. Division II triennial budget. The committee discussed recommending the following for the 2027-30 budget cycle: adding an individual qualifier for finals, increasing the regional travel party from seven to eight, and adding two officials for finals and one per regional site.

19. Manuals review. The committee reviewed the pre-championships manual and regional participants manual template for any necessary changes. The committee made editorial changes to the pre-championships manual to clarify the tiebreaking policy. Members agreed to review the other manuals later.

20. 2025-26 Division II Women's Golf Committee chair appointment. The committee appointed Dominic Guarnieri as the next Division II Women's Golf Committee chair for the 2025-26 season.

Committee Chair: Michael Bond, University of Central Oklahoma; Mid-America Athletic Conference
Staff Liaisons: Mariah Martin, Championships and Alliances

Division II Women's Golf Committee July 21-22, 2025, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Michael Bond, University of Central Oklahoma.	
Ben Greenberg, Colorado State University, Pueblo.	
Dominic Guarnieri, University of Findlay.	
Suzanne Strudwick, Carson-Newman University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Joey Marino, Nova Southeastern.	
Jeremy Benoit, Goldey-Beacom College.	
David Lynn, Oklahoma Christian.	
Brad Wiesley, Head Rules Official.	

Fran Reidy, Coaches Connection.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Mariah Martin, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Antonio Cannavaro, Championships and Alliances.
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.
Maritza Jones, Division II Governance.



2024-25 SUBSTITUTION POLICY

During registration, the head coach must submit his or her lineup according to playing position. The five participants from each institution must be determined by the conclusion of registration.

Prior to a stroke or match play round during Regionals or Finals, a team may substitute a sixth player for any member of the team provided that:

- a. The Site representative is notified of the substitution at least 10-minutes prior to that team member's starting time.
- b. The sixth player is an eligible member of the institution's team.

***Note 1:** When a team has substituted a sixth player, no further substitutions may be made by the team for that round.

***Note 2:** Unless a team chooses to substitute a sixth player prior to a match play draw, the team's five players that played in the previous round will be used for the draw.

Should institutions bring a sixth player as a substitute, that player may use the practice facilities during the women's championships and is allowed to participate in the team's practice round.

Sixth player will act a spectator and must follow spectator guideline for the rest of that round.

Sixth player may also use practice facilities during the rounds if they are not out on the Course.