



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE
JUNE 22-23, 2026, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Primary selection criteria updates.**

- a. Recommendation. Update the verbiage of the primary criteria for selection of participants.

Current Verbiage	Updated Verbiage
• Head-to-head competition; • Results vs. common opponents; • Results vs. in-region opponents; • Spring results compared to fall results; • Scoring average (adjusted scoring average and head-to-head grid vs. par); • Strength of schedule (number of teams in tournaments, rounds of competition and overall strength-of-tournament fields); and • Eligibility and availability of student-athletes. <i>NOTE: The criteria will be prioritized in the above order if a decision cannot be reached.</i>	• Head-to-head competition; • Results vs. common opponents; • Results vs. in-region opponents; • Scoring average; • Strength of schedule; and • Eligibility and availability of student-athletes.

- b. Effective date. Sept. 1, 2027, for the 2028 championships.

- c. Rationale. The committee would like to update the selection criteria by removing the “spring results compared to fall results” criterion. The change clarifies the committee’s evaluation of a team’s entire season schedule rather than placing greater emphasis on one season over the other. The committee noted that each tournament contributes to team and individual performance. In addition, the committee removed the note stating that the selection criteria will be prioritized in the order listed if a decision cannot be reached. The committee noted that the men’s golf criteria state that the criteria are “not necessarily in

priority order” and recommended updating the same language for the women’s selection criteria to provide consistency across genders, particularly for coaches who oversee both men’s and women’s golf programs. In addition, the committee wants to remove the parentheses next to scoring average and strength of schedule to match how they are written for the men.

- d. Estimated budget impacts. None.
- e. Student-athlete impact. The proposal provides clarity into how rankings and selections are determined, making it easier for student-athletes to understand what qualifications are required to be ranked or selected for regionals.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Annual meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the 2026 annual meeting schedule.
2. **Approval of 2025 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2025 committee meeting report as presented.
3. **Committee roster.** The committee reviewed the 2026-27 roster, noting the addition of a new West Region chair.
4. **2026-27 automatic qualification.** The committee reviewed the current sponsorship list and noted adjustments in sponsorship and conference membership.
5. **Review of 2026 championships.** The committee reviewed the 2026 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 emphasized the importance of using a two-tee start, when possible, to stay ahead of potential weather delays and maximize the number of holes completed. Members also stressed the importance of providing a consistent student-athlete experience across all regional sites. The committee acknowledged that experiences may vary because hosts differ, particularly when sports commissions are involved, and some institutions may not be able to replicate the same experience. Given the limited number of regional bid submissions, maintaining complete consistency across sites is not always feasible. The committee also emphasized the value of a two-tee start on the final day of competition to allow the championship to conclude at a reasonable time. This would ensure all teams are present for the awards ceremony while allowing coaches who work both the men’s and women’s championships sufficient time to travel to the men’s regional sites. Members reiterated potential adjustments to tee-time order to better accommodate weather conditions and that yardages listed in the championship manual may change because of weather, safety or course conditions. Finally, the committee discussed having future hosts assign team hotels to minimize excess room reservations within hotel blocks and reduce

confusion regarding room availability across multiple properties.

- b. Championships.** The committee noted that the Palm Beach County Sports Commission and Palm Beach Atlantic University did a great job hosting. The committee supported implementing a two-tee start on all three days of stroke play to help mitigate potential weather delays and improve the likelihood of completing all 54 holes, particularly at championships conducted in Florida. Members noted the welcome reception breakfast was well received and agreed it should continue to be held before the practice round. The committee further noted that the semifinal runner-up awards will be presented as teams complete play on the 18th green. This change will allow teams to depart sooner rather than waiting for all matches to conclude, particularly for coaches who also coach the opposite gender and need to travel to the next championship site. On Military Appreciation Day, the committee appreciated the ceremonial tee shot that opened the round and supports continuing this recognition in future championships.
- c. Championships survey results.** The committee noted lower marks regarding regional travel. The committee recommended this item for the upcoming Division II triennial budget cycle, to match 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 feedback 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.
- 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 commended last year's updates to the pace of play policy to a maximum of 5.5 hours and approved to remain in place for the upcoming season, with no additional time allotted at regionals or finals. The pace of play matrix will also remain in effect, providing guidance on where groups should be at designated times throughout the round. Once a group has moved forward and completed its second shots, following groups should proceed without delay. The policy will continue without a maximum time limit for each 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 course layout. However, split tees are highly encouraged to provide additional rest between rounds and allow for an earlier finish, particularly on the final day, to accommodate the awards presentation and help mitigate

potential weather delays. The championship format will use a two-tee start for stroke play to increase rest time between rounds and provide greater flexibility in the event of inclement weather.

h. Rules officials. The committee noted a positive experience in working with the head rules officials and the officials crew.

6. Upcoming championships dates. The committee reviewed upcoming championship dates, locations and hosts.

7. 2027 championships preview.

a. Important dates. The committee reviewed the timeline for the 2026-27 season.

b. Selections. The selection call will take place on April 25, 2027.

c. Regional sites. The committee noted that the 2027 regionals will be at the following sites:

2027 Regional	Host/Venue
Central	University of Nebraska at Kearney, Meadowlark Hill Golf Course
East	University of Findlay, Nemacolin
South	University of North Georgia, Chattahoochee Golf Club
West	California State University, San Marcos, Victoria Club

d. Finals site. The committee noted that the finals site berths for 2026-27 will be: Central - 4 teams; South 5 - 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. The head rules official will conduct a site visit during this year's championship preview tournament Oct. 3-4, 2026. The NCAA liaison and committee chair will conduct the national championship site visit with the 2027 host on Oct. 27-28, 2026.

8. 2028 championship dates. The committee confirmed the regional and national championships dates for 2028.

9. Head rules official review. The committee commended Head Rules Official Brad Wiesley's contributions and discussed his recommendations to assist with the logistics of the championships. The committee reaffirmed that pin locations will be distributed at the same during regionals and championships, ensuring all teams have an equal opportunity to review the locations. The committee supports continuing 18-hole stipulated rounds to ensure individual and team advancements are based on a complete round of golf.

10. Finals bid specs. The committee reviewed the timeline for the 2029-2031 championship cycles.

11. Policy review.

- a. **Tournament schedule submission deadline.** The committee noted the beginning of the fall season as the registration deadline and Feb. 1 as the tournament submission deadline. The committee noted the importance of making sure schedules are submitted to Clippd prior to Feb. 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, golf clubs or golf bags. The committee supports allowing a substitute to ride in the coach's car during competition rounds, provided the student-athlete does not provide advice. At both regionals and championships, substitutes will be issued wristbands that distinguish them from the designated coach authorized to provide advice.
- c. **Student-athletes as advice givers.** The committee notes this policy should remain in place. Student-athletes may not serve as advice givers. The committee also clarified that once advice givers have been assigned for a competition round, a different advice giver may be designated during the round only in the event of a medical or other extenuating circumstance.
- d. **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 with 10 minutes' notice.
- e. **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.
- f. **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.

- g. **Stroke play and medal match play pace of play.** The committee noted this policy should stay the same.
- h. **Order of tee times.** For regionals, the committee noted that the order of tee times is at the discretion of the host institution based on course layout. However, split tees are highly encouraged to provide additional rest between rounds and allow for an earlier finish, particularly on the final day, to accommodate the awards presentation and help mitigate potential weather delays. The championship format will use a two-tee start for stroke play to increase rest between rounds and provide greater flexibility in the event of inclement weather.
- i. **Electronic scoring at regionals and finals.** The committee agreed that live scoring from Clippd will continue to 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.
- j. **Tiebreaking procedures.** The committee was satisfied with last year's tiebreaking procedure adjustments and supports continuing them. Separating the regional and championship procedures further improves organization and clarity. The committee also updated the medal match play procedures to clarify that if a student-athlete withdraws or medically retires for an extenuating circumstance or medical reasons during a match, the match is immediately concluded, and the opposing team is awarded the point, and the opposing student-athlete is not required to complete the match for advancement.
- k. **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 in which 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.

12. 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 the Division II golf championships.
- d. **Professor Mark Broadie.** The committees reviewed factors to consider developing a Division II regional golf ranking ahead of the 2026-27 season. In the fall, the committees will review preliminary data provided by Mr. Broadie before considering next steps.
- e. **Consistency across genders.**
 - i. **2026-27 proposed men's and women's golf rules modifications.** The committees discussed one rules modification proposals recently received from the membership and took no action on any of the proposals.
 - ii. **Substitution policy.** The committees agreed to maintain the current substitution policy.
 - iii. **Student-athletes as advice givers.** The committees agreed that student-athletes should not serve as advice givers.
 - iv. **Student-athletes electronic scoring at regionals and finals.** The committees agreed to continue 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.
 - v. **Practice facility/course access.** The committees agree to keep the same practice facility/course access policies.
 - vi. **Medal play vs. match play.** The committees discussed the feedback received from the membership survey based on medal match play vs. match play at the national championships. 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 maintain a high level of competitiveness and student-athlete experience.
 - vii. **Standard bearers at finals site.** The committees agreed that standard bearers will no longer be one of the volunteer positions in the championships because incorrect scores

were displayed during the competition this past year and previous championships years.

- viii. **Tie breaking procedures.** The committees reviewed their tiebreaking procedures and noted some slight differences. The women's committee will keep its procedures, and the men's committee will reference the women's tiebreaking procedures and make some updates in their manuals.
- ix. **Student-athlete welcome reception.** The committees discussed the transition from championship banquets to student-athlete welcome receptions held before the practice round and expressed strong support for this year's receptions. The committee noted that the revised format allows teams to spend the evening before competition begins together and supports continuing the welcome reception format for this championship season.
- x. **2027 annual meeting.** The committees agreed June 21-22, 2027, will be the dates for the 2027 joint virtual annual meeting.
- xi. **Regionals/final site allocations.** The men's committee updated the women's committee on discussions they were having in retrospect to allocations to regionals and to the finals site. The men's committee will follow up with the women's committee after championships committee comments on the men's committee's proposals for regional and finals site allocations. The women's committee also separately reviewed regional bid allocation concepts for further consideration at a later date.
- xii. **Allow one or more rounds of "fewer than 18 holes" to factor into the regional results.** Both committees support continuing 18-hole stipulated rounds to ensure individual and team advancements are based on a complete round of golf.

13. 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. The committee also noted that any participating coach who serves on the national committee may continue to assist with championship decisions as it relates to format adjustments due to weather-related matters.

14. Review of the committee timeline. The committee discussed the timeline and made necessary updates for the 2026-27 season.

15. 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. Additional manuals will reflect similar changes.

16. 2026-27 Division II Women's Golf Committee chair appointment. The committee

reappointed Dominic Guarnieri as the Division II Women's Golf Committee chair for the 2026-27 season.

Committee Chair: Dominic Guarnieri, University of Findlay; Great Midwest Athletic Conference
Staff Liaisons: Mariah Martin, Championships and Alliances

Division II Women's Golf Committee June 22-23, 2026, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Alex Schmitz, Minnesota State University, Mankato.	
Dominic Guarnieri, University of Findlay.	
Travis Muncy, Lincoln Memorial University.	
Ben Greenberg, Colorado State University, Pueblo.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Joey Marino, Nova Southeastern.	
Jeremy Benoit, Goldey-Beacom College.	
David Lynn, Oklahoma Christian.	
Troy Halterman, University of Missouri-St. Louis.	
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.	
Micaela Kapsalis, Championships and Alliances.	
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.	
Katie Mucci, Division II Governance.	