



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEES
JULY 9, 2025, JOINT VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Regional round proposal.**

a. Recommendation. The men's and women's golf committees recommend both championships add a regional round of competition prior to the finals.

b. Effective date. September 1, 2026, or 2027.

c. Rationale. The committees recommend this proposal with three goals in mind:

(1) **Increase access to the championships:** Adding a regional round prior to the finals would provide a greater opportunity to qualify for the championships by increasing the at-large field from nine to 41 teams for the men's championships and from nine to 35 for the women's. This would also add more opportunities for institutions to host a championship event within their region to showcase their campus and community.

(2) **Provide an enhanced student-athlete experience:** With the current format and so many teams advancing straight to the finals, both the men's and women's championships can accept bids only from hosts with two courses within 30 minutes of each other, which limits the quality of courses and variety of locations at which the championships can be conducted. It is already difficult to find one course willing to close public play for a week during their most profitable season, let alone two courses. The previous bid cycle and bid symposium proved there is plenty of interest in these championships, but most interested hosts cannot fulfill the two-course requirement. Decreasing the number of teams at the finals would help tournament management as well by improving the ability to secure courses, hotels, limit travel costs, and provide more flexibility with inclement weather.

(3) **Ensure a more competitive field at the finals:** Each year there are several top-25 teams that do not get the opportunity to compete in the NCAA championships due to the current format and so many teams advancing straight to the finals (e.g. men's #14 in 2024-25 and women's #6 in 2022-23). Adding a regional round provides an opportunity for a more competitive finals tournament with qualifying teams having to compete and earn their advancement.

- d. Estimated budget impact. Men's championships: \$265,000. Women's championships: \$289,000. Please see the attached cost analysis for each provided by NCAA Travel.
- e. Student-athlete impact. Increasing access to the championships and providing more quality courses in a variety of locations would enhance the student-athlete experience. The committee has discussed and attempted to address the membership's concerns about extra travel and missed class time by altering the original schedule created for the proposal to limit regional play on weekdays.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Gender equity.** The committees discussed operations for both championships to ensure there are no gender equity gaps. The committee agrees that the efforts to improve this in recent years has been sufficient.
2. **Rankings.** The committees discussed if there was a need to propose adjustments to the ranking algorithm. Suggestions for portal enhancements and questions for Dr. Mark Broadie were collected during individual committee annual meetings. The topic was tabled due to a planned videoconference with Dr. Broadie in August.
3. **Alternate championship enhancements.** The committees discussed alternative requests to help improve the championships if the regional proposal is not approved. The committee discussed a potential increase in the travel party to provide flexibility with the substitution policy, which has been a frequent request by member coaches and institutions. An alternative proposal will be developed by the NCAA liaisons dependent on the championships committee's decision about the regional proposal.

Committee Chair: Men's committee – Tom Koehle, Pennsylvania State University, Altoona; Women's committee – Adele Burk, New England Small College Athletic Conference

Staff Liaison(s): Men's committee - Ryan Richardson, Championships and Alliances; Women's committee – Demetria Young, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Golf Committees July 9, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Brian Bruha, Lake Forest College.	
Adele Burk, New England Small College Athletic Conference.	
Dave Eavenson, Methodist University.	
DeeDee Jarman, Methodist University.	
Matthew Kluck, Washington and Jefferson College.	
Tom Koehle, Penn State University, Altoona.	
Paulette Pera, University of California, Santa Cruz.	
Tana Thomas, Swarthmore College.	
Ali Wilson, American Rivers Conference.	
Absentees:	
David Lindholm, Williams College.	
William Raleigh, Schreiner University.	

Dan Wesley, University of Rochester.
NCAA Staff in Attendance:
Ryan Richardson, Championships and Alliances.
Demetria Young, Championships and Alliances.